



Pulse
of Wabash

Wabash Plain
Dealer's new
website now
available

Check out our new web-site at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web.support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain
Dealer's new office
now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

VFW to host
fish fry

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 286 has planned a fish fry from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7 at 3678 W. Old Indiana 24. The menu will include hand-battered fish, baked beans, coleslaw and hush puppies. All-you-can-eat dine in and carryout are available. The cost is \$8.

Wabash
Marketplace
announces
February First
Friday details

Wabash Marketplace encourages the community to celebrate First Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7 in downtown Wabash.

United Methodist
Church plans
community dinner

The United Methodist Church will be hosting a community dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7 at 306 E. Second St. The menu includes baked steak, green beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, salad, roll, dessert and drink. Ticket cost for adults is \$8.50 and children ages 7 to 12 are \$5, children under 6 are free. Carry-outs are available at 4:30 p.m. The public is welcome. North Manchester United Methodist Church is handicapped-accessible, with parking in the rear of the church and the East Second Street parking lot.



Andrew Wade, left, who plays Art Garfunkel, and George Clements, who plays Paul Simon, perform in "The Simon and Garfunkel Story," which returns at 7:30 p.m. Friday to the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater

Experience 'The Simon and Garfunkel Story'

Tribute act to take
the stage Friday
at Ford Theater

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Paul Simon retired from touring in 2018. Even before that, he hadn't performed with musical partner Art Garfunkel in nearly a decade. So, there's a high probability seeing them together live is not going to be possible.

But, Andrew Wade, who plays Art Garfunkel, said in a recent phone interview that if you can't see the pair on tour, "The Simon and Garfunkel Story" is "the next best thing." "We've had people come up and say, 'Hey, we saw them in '83 and this is better than that.' Of course, that's shaded by recency bias," he said. "We can always build on what they did. ... And I think part of that is the journey that we take them on as a part of the show."

"The Simon and Garfunkel Story" returns at 7:30 p.m.

Friday to the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater after a sold-out worldwide and North American tours.

The nostalgic multimedia experience features a full live band performing hits including "Mrs. Robinson," "Cecilia," "Homeward Bound," and more. Tickets are \$35 and \$45. Dining for this show is sold out.

Getting in character

Wade said he had been performing professionally for the past 14 years, primarily in musical theater and as a vocalist in various venues including cruise lines. He graduated from the University of Portland in his native Oregon. He then spent eight years in Los Angeles and has lived in New York for the past year.

Wade said portraying a real person presented its challenges. He said the most important aspects are not just the vocal stylings, but their physical characteristics. He said learning about the man himself by watching interviews was

essential.

"It's easy to look at Art Garfunkel on stage and go, 'Wow, the ego, the aloofness.' ... I don't think it's that at all. For me, it's really more that he has this supreme confidence and he just loves what he's doing and he loves the interaction and the energy from the audience and giving them the gift he has to give to them," he said. "I watched an interview once where he was asked, 'When did you first know you had a special gift, a special talent as a singer?' And he said, 'Oh when I was 4 or 5.' And so that is someone who has never in their whole lives doubted that they had this incredible talent."

Learning the music

Wade said they perform 31 songs in the show and before he started, he "knew a third of those pretty well."

"The others were new to me. I knew the big ones," he said. "But, there was a lot of new stuff, too and that was a lot of fun."

Wade said performing

"Bridge over Troubled Water" was by far the most challenging.

"The hardest thing for me was finding exactly how to deliver that song vocally. It's his most iconic song. It's a deceptively difficult song to sing. It sits right in a funky place and you have to find the sweet spot with the vowels and with the placement and all that," he said.

Wade said the four-piece band which plays with George Clements, who plays Paul Simon, and him is "just top-of-the-line." He said the projections and narrations behind them provide extra texture to their musical telling of the group's story.

"George is an unbelievable guitarist," he said. "I don't think a lot of people know their story. I mean people know the music, but they don't know their personal story arc where they came from and what happened along the way."

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Parkview Health hosting global innovation competition

Program hopes to
uncover solutions
for infant mortality

By STAFF REPORT

Parkview Health is calling on innovators around the globe to create solutions for infant mortality, according to a press release.

The Healthy Mom and Baby Innovation Competition, created in partnership with MATTER, a global healthcare startup incubator based in Chicago, seeks ideas that could reduce the infant mortality rate in northeast Indiana and around the world.

The competition is open to

healthcare startups, as well as anyone with an innovative idea for a product, solution or service that fits within the competition scope. Prizes include the opportunity to pilot the winning solution with Parkview Health, a \$10,000 cash award, a one-year membership at MATTER and the chance to pitch their idea to potential investors at an event in September.

The infant mortality rate, considered a key indicator of overall community health, is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Allen County's rate for 2017 was 7.3, well above the national rate of 5.9. While newly released data shows Indiana's

rate dropped from 7.3 to 6.8 in 2018, the issue remains a concern.

The competition, which is also sponsored by the Indiana Management Performance Hub and the Indiana Chapter of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), will culminate in an event on May 4 at the Parkview Mirro Center for Research & Innovation. It will include presentations from the finalists and a community resource fair, connecting innovators with local experts.

The Healthy Mom and Baby Innovation Competition is the second in a series of competitions Parkview and its partners have organized to

address infant mortality. The Health Mom + Baby Datapalooza, held Oct. 5, 2019 at the Parkview Education Center, was a data visualization and analytics challenge that brought together students, researchers, policymakers, health care professionals and entrepreneurs to uncover insights into the state's infant mortality data. The results of Datapalooza will be used to assist participants in the Innovation Competition.

Interested innovators can learn more about the competition and apply by visiting parkview.com/innovation2020. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Friday, April 10.

Owens drops out of governor's race

Democrat endorses
sole challenger Dr.
Woody Myers for
nomination

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Josh Owens announced Wednesday he was dropping out of the race and endorsing former inter-party rival Dr. Woody Myers for the nomination to face incumbent Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb.

In September 2019, Josh Owens made history by becoming the first openly gay gubernatorial candidate in state history.

Holcomb announced his re-election campaign in July 2019. Holcomb's campaign has yet to return multiple Plain Dealer requests for a phone interview with the governor over the past few months.

"I got into this race because I believe Indiana needs a bigger, bolder, more inclusive vision for every Hoosier, one not rooted in our last 200 years, but in our next 200. Over the past several months, we've earned the support and trust of thousands of Hoosiers who agree," stated Owens, in a Thursday statement in response to a Plain Dealer request. "During this primary, I've had many discussions with Dr. Woody Myers about the future of Indiana and the desperate need for new leadership in the Governor's office. While we have some differences, I'm encouraged that like me, he's not a career politician. Dr. Myers brings an outsider's perspective to our politics, which is urgently needed. One of the things Dr. Myers and I have agreed on is the need to avoid a divisive Democratic Primary. As of today, I will be suspending my campaign and supporting Dr. Myers as he becomes the presumptive Democratic nominee for governor. Our state needs a champion for public school teachers and students in every community. Our state needs a leader who will act on universal background checks and climate change innovation. And our state needs an executive who will protect all Hoosiers, and one who represents the diversity of our great state and will bring new inclusive voices to the table. Dr. Myers has the experience, the background, and the vision for success that Indiana deserves. I am proud to be supporting him as he takes our fight into the November election."

Myers accepts endorsement

Myers was the first Democrat to announce his intentions in July. He was soon followed by Owens, and Sen. Eddie Melton, D-Gary, who has also since dropped out of the race.

Myers has served as Indiana State Health Commissioner, an attending physician at the Wishard Hospital Emergency Room, a teacher and business executive.

Myers made history when

See OWENS, page A3

State again looks to guard against tax cheats

DOR's Identity Theft and Tax Fraud

Prevention Program begins its seventh year

By STAFF REPORT

Stopping identity theft and tax fraud isn't something the Indiana Department of Revenue (DOR) takes lightly,

according to a press release.

"In fact, DOR is a national leader in this arena, stopping over \$110 million in attempted identity theft and

tax refund fraud since 2014," stated the release.

To ensure all customers' IDs and refunds are safe, every tax return is analyzed using a sophisticated set of ID verification and fraud rules. These rules identify and stop attempted fraud before the

tax return ever enters the tax processing system.

A major part of DOR's Identity Theft and Tax Fraud Prevention Program is the identity confirmation quiz. This important step guarantees all returns submitted were completed by the filer

listed on the return, and the refund goes to the right destination.

"Customers selected for the ID confirmation quiz are sent a letter asking them to complete the quiz online or

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Inside

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Asbury Country Church
On Sunday, Feb. 9 at Asbury Country Church the Sunday school is 9:30 a.m., and the worship service is at 10:30 a.m. The worship leader will be Amy Bullick. The music leader will be Mel Hoover. The piano will be played by Cathy Staggs. The morning message by Pastor Mike Bullick will be, "Leave the Lights On."

Christ United Methodist Church
On Sunday, Feb. 9, worship service at Christ United Methodist Church, 477 N. Wabash St., is at 10 a.m. Pastor Chris Tiedeman's sermon is from 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 titled "Smart-phone Faith." Check us out at wabashchristumc.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/






Dora Christian Church
On Sunday, Feb. 9 worship services at Dora Christian Church, 2325 S. Salamonie Dam Road, Lagro, the minister will be Mark Wisniewski, the song leader will be Olman Sanchez, the pianist will be Sherry Brock and the organist will be Kristy Good. The message for the 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. services in our February "Loving Like You Mean It" Series will be "Love that Submits and Surrenders" from Ephesians 5:21-33. The Commu-

CHURCH NEWS
nion Table will be served by Bill Miller and Chuck Marion. Children's Church at the 10:30 a.m. service will be led by Holli Good and Brooke Swope.
First United Methodist Church
On Sunday, Feb. 9, 110 Cass St., worship services will be at 8 and 10 a.m., with a coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service in the MAC. At the 8 a.m. service, the prelude and postlude will be by Kathy Geible, the children's message will be by Alan Palmer, and the opening prayer and scripture reading will be by Pastor Nathan Whybrew. At both the 8 and 10 a.m. services, the scripture will be 1 Thesalonians 5:12-28, the sermon series will be "Visions of Success" and the sermon by Pastor Nathan Whybrew will be, "Prayer Vision." At the 10 a.m. service, the prelude will be by Karol Evenson, the opening prayer and scripture reading will be by Herb Mullen, the music will be by the Chancel Choir, and the postlude will be by Susan Vanlandingham. Visit us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/wabashfirstumc/.

Wabash Church of the Brethren
Please join us at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 9 at the Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond St., to worship together. This week, Pastor Doug Veal will continue his series on The Sermon on the Mount with "Let your Light Shine" based on Matthew 5:13-16. Children's church and nursery are available during worship times. Church and sanctuary are handicapped accessible. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m. Our Bible study over the book of Philippians meets at 10 a.m. Tuesdays.





Walk By Faith Community Church
At the Sunday, Feb. 9 services at the Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann, Sunday school will be at 9 a.m., and the worship and children's worship will be at 10 a.m. The pastor is Greg Wilburn. The youth pastor is Jody Tyner. Our greeters for this Sunday will be Jared and Lynn Miller, and Jamie and Stephanie Hopper. Pastor Greg Wilburn will be sharing the message with us. We invite all to come and worship with us. Visit our website at www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com.
Editor's note: Have an upcoming event to submit? Send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

5-Day Weather Summary

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
|  Friday Scattered Snow 31 / 22 |  Saturday Mostly Cloudy 32 / 23 |  Sunday Scattered Snow 36 / 28 |  Monday Mostly Cloudy 34 / 30 |  Tuesday Partly Cloudy 35 / 29 |
|--|--|---|--|---|

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 6:12 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:51 a.m.

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
|  Full 2/9 |  Last 2/15 |  New 2/23 |  First 3/2 |
|--|--|--|---|

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a 40% chance of scattered snow, high of 31°, humidity of 79%. West northwest wind 8 mph. Snow accumulation of less than one inch possible. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of snow, overnight low of 22°. Southwest wind 2 to 7 mph.

No Need To Use Rubbing Alcohol On Cuts

DEAR DOCTOR: I was helping with Thanksgiving dinner when the paring knife slipped and sliced my finger. My aunt said to clean the cut with rubbing alcohol, which we didn't have. I've always heard you're supposed to hold it under running water. How do you fix a cut?

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors



DEAR READER: Your aunt isn't alone in thinking that a cut should be cleaned with rubbing alcohol, but that's not a good method. Rubbing alcohol is a clear liquid made up of approximately 70% denatured ethanol or isopropanol, and it is used topically in medical settings to clean injection or surgical sites. It's highly effective due to its chemical properties, which break down the fat-based external membranes of bacteria, killing them. But in these cases, the alcohol is used on skin that is intact. When applied to an open wound, rubbing alcohol can cause tissue damage and actually slow the healing process. This also holds true for hydrogen peroxide, another common go-to disinfectant. Instead, the best way to clean a cut is to apply a mild soap and hold it under a slow stream of cool or cold running water. Leave it there for at least five minutes. This gently cleanses the wound, and the cool water temperature causes the capillaries to constrict, which helps to slow bleeding. By doing this, you accomplish the first step of caring for a cut – or any type of wound – which is to stop the bleeding. A cut may continue to bleed after you have finished cleaning it. If this happens, apply firm and steady pressure. Be sure that the

cloth or gauze you use is completely clean, otherwise you risk reintroducing debris or potentially infectious materials into the wound. If the cut is deep enough and the blood soaks through the cloth or bandage, don't remove it. You risk dislodging the clot that has begun to form. Instead, add a fresh and clean absorbent layer, and resume applying pressure to the cut.


When the bleeding stops, apply an antibiotic ointment. This helps to prevent infection and to keep the wound moist and lubricated. This last is important to optimal healing, and brings us to another myth about wound care. Despite what you may have heard, you don't want to "air out" a wound. This encourages the formation of a scab or a crust, which can

crack open and become infected. Instead, continue to use the antibiotic ointment, and keep the wound covered with a clean bandage. Once healing has progressed enough that the wound has closed and a scar has formed, continue to keep the area clean and intact. While it's safe to treat most minor cuts at home, get professional medical help for cuts with ragged rather than clean edges, when it's deep enough that bone is visible, and when significant bleeding persists. Any type of puncture wound, which has a high risk of infection, should also be seen by a medical professional. Fever, red streaking, swelling, yellow or green pus, and excessive fluid are signs of infection and require immediate medical care.



@WabashPD

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Roxy 5 Showtimes for Friday, February 7- Thursday, February 13
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Birds of Prey (R) Fri: 6:50, 9:40 Sat: 1:10, 3:55, 6:50, 9:40 Sun: 1:10, 3:55, 6:50 Mon- Thurs: 6:50 | Gretel and Hansel (PG13) Fri: 6:40, 9:10 Sat: 1:20, 4:15, 6:40, 9:10 Sun: 1:20, 4:15, 6:40 Mon- Thurs: 6:40 | Dolittle (PG) Fri: 7:00, 9:30 Sat: 1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30 Sun: 1:40, 4:25, 7:00 Mon- Thurs: 7:00 |
|---|--|---|

| | |
|---|--|
| The Gentlemen (R) Fri: 6:30, 9:20 Sat: 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:20 Sun: 1:00, 3:45, 6:30 Mon- Thurs: 6:30 | 1917 (R) Fri: 7:10, 9:50 Sat: 1:30, 4:05, 7:10, 9:50 Sun: 1:30, 4:05, 7:10 Mon- Thurs: 7:10 |
|---|--|

For more information please call
765-460-5322
or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru





Riverdance
NEW 25TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

Sponsored by Wellbrooke of Wabash
Tues. Feb. 18 • 7:30 pm
Most seats \$50, \$60 • Limited premium seating \$100



FINDING NEVERLAND

Presented by
 **PARKVIEW WABASH HOSPITAL** 
Sun. March 15 • 7:30 pm
\$45, \$58



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www.honeywellcenter.org

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
17-27-31-32-34
Estimated jackpot: \$125,000
Cash4Life
03-15-27-52-54, Cash Ball: 2
Lotto Plus
03-15-19-23-35-38
Daily Three-Midday
6-8-6, SB: 9
Daily Three-Evening
1-6-2, SB: 5
Daily Four-Midday
1-3-1-9, SB: 9
Daily Four-Evening
1-3-8-0, SB: 5
Hoosier Lotto
01-09-13-15-19-31
Estimated jackpot: \$8.3 million
Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$187 million
Powerball
23-30-35-41-57, Powerball: 2, Power Play: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$50 million

THURSDAY'S METALS

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Aluminum..... | .77 |
| Copper..... | 2.59 |
| Lead..... | 1.04 |
| Zinc..... | 1.81 |
| Gold..... | 1,564.20 |
| Silver..... | 17.75 |
| Platinum..... | 965.85 |

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices
Thursday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: \$4.00.
Soybeans: \$8.75.



Wabash Plain Dealer

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| Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Walk-in hours are from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. 260-563-2131 (after hours, press 5 for advertising) | Classified: classifieds@wabashplaindealer.com Legals: legals@wabashplaindealer.com Retail: cbrown@wabashplaindealer.com |
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Newsroom

| | |
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Obituaries

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Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash • 260-563-0421
www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Rev. L. Byron Miller

Rev. L. Byron Miller, 105, North Manchester, died Feb. 5, 2020.

Rev. L. Byron Miller is survived by his sons, Julian Miller and Stanley (Linda) Miller; daughters, Rowena (Darrel) Fourman, Anita Miller, and Lillian Long; grandchildren, Brian (Kim) Fourman, Heather (Anthony) Zias, Jordan Long, Nelson (Alison) Long, Kiersten (Chris) Tharp, Emily Weikert, Cohen Marvel, and Alyssa Marvel; and seven great-grandchildren.

Calling Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Timbercrest Chapel, 2201 East Street, North Manchester. Funeral services Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at Timbercrest Assembly Room, 2201 East Street, North Manchester.

Cheryl Lynne Steele

July 11, 1958 – Feb. 4, 2020

Cheryl Lynne Steele, 61, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 10:03 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2020 at Parkview Randallia in Fort Wayne. She was born July 11, 1958 in Columbus, Ohio to Jack and Eloris (Sparks) Hampton.

Cheryl was a 1977 graduate of Northfield High School. She married Richard L. Steele in Lagro, Indiana on December 20, 1976. She was a home healthcare nurse's aide. Cheryl enjoyed bowling, and was in a bowling league several years, and also enjoyed playing miniature golf.

She is survived by her husband, Richard Steele of Wabash, three children, Richard L. (Jennifer) Steele II of East Liverpool, Ohio, Emma Steele and Keith Steele, both of Wabash, seven grandchildren, Kiley Steele, Jesse Hackworth, and Isabella Hackworth, all of Wabash, Camden Wright and Makenzie Steele, both of East Liverpool, Zachariah Steele and Autumn Steele, both of Oklahoma, father, Jack Hampton of Wabash, two brothers, Jack Hampton, Jr. of Albion, Indiana, and Jeff Hampton of Wabash, and her sister, Tammy (Marlon) Garrett of Wabash. She was preceded in death by her mother, Eloris Hampton.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 10, 2020 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Rev. Rick Borgman officiating. Burial will be in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 9:30-11 a.m. Monday, at the funeral home.

The memorial guest book for Cheryl may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.



Fletcher Allen Bozarth

Dec. 14, 1949 – Feb. 4, 2020

Fletcher Allen Bozarth, 70, of Lagro, Indiana, died at 4:50 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2020 at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin, Indiana. He was born Dec. 14, 1949 in Wabash, Indiana to Roland E. and Josephine (Calusio) Bozarth.

Fletcher was a 1967 graduate of Southwood High School, and a 1969 graduate of the United Electronics Institute in Louisville, Kentucky, where he received his certificate in Electrical Engineering. He worked for Thompson Consumer Electronics, formerly RCA, in Carmel, Indiana from 1969 until his retirement in 2002, and also was the owner/operator



of Bozarth's Recreational Resort in Wabash County. Fletcher enjoyed fishing, mushroom hunting, cooking, grilling, his weekly euchre games, and bargain shopping.

He is survived by three daughters, Laura (Dennis) Combs of New Whiteland, Indiana, Melinda (Scott) Gary of Trafalgar, Indiana, and Nickole (Joseph) Milewski of Franklin, five grandchildren, Corbin Combs of Indianapolis, Indiana, Lindsey Combs of New Whiteland, Maura Gary of Nashville, Tennessee, Madelyn Gary and Maci Gary, both of Trafalgar, two brothers, Jerry Murphy of Butler, Indiana, and Nathan (Peggy) Bozarth of Wabash, and four sisters, Beverly (John) Lynn of Wabash, Darlene Adams and Pamela (Steve) Pershing, both of Lagro,

Indiana, and Vivian (Dave) Wintrode of Summerville, South Carolina. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash, with Rev. Melissa Rice officiating. Burial will be in Center Grove Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 4 – 8 p.m. Saturday, and one hour prior to the service Sunday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are Fletcher Bozarth Memorial Fishing Tournament, c/o Bozarth Recreational Resort, or the Indiana Donor Network, as Fletcher was a donor.

The memorial guest book for Fletcher may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

PULSE

From page A1

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ to host prom for people with special needs

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ will host Night to Shine 2020 from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North. For additional information, visit www.bachelorcreek.com.

LaFontaine Lions to host breakfast

The LaFontaine Lions Club is set to host a breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m., or until it's gone, Saturday, Feb. 8 at the LaFontaine Community Building. The menu includes scrambled eggs, sausage, sausage gravy and biscuits, pancakes (on request), juice, milk and coffee. There will be a free-will donation. Proceeds will be used for the upkeep of the LaFontaine Community Building. Lions also collect old glasses, hearing aids and keys.

Experience 120 years of local agricultural history

The North Manchester Historical Society (NMHS) will be hosting John Hartsough at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10 in the Assembly Room of Timbercrest Senior Living, 2201 East St., North Manchester. There is no charge for attendance.

Wabash River water quality meeting planned

The project focused on assessing, protecting and improving water quality; engaging individuals interested in the Wabash River drainage; and developing a step-wise plan for the Wabash River drainage will host its final public meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10 at the Honeywell Room at the Honeywell Center. For more information, email Sara Peel at wabashriverdefenders@gmail.com or Jen Rankin at jrankin@slashthetrash.com.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to meet

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (INDAR) will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Museum announces History Hunters program

The first event will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11 at the Wabash County Museum, 36 E. Market St. Amanda Rumba, a member of the Indiana Humanities speakers' bureau, will present her original program, "Historic Hoosier Communities: Change and Consistency."

Woman's Clubhouse to host monthly luncheon

The Woman's Clubhouse along with the Sew Peaceful Quilt Club will host its monthly luncheon at noon Feb. 11. The program will be a prize and gift day with games and surprises. The Bash Boutique is our sponsor and will provide one of our gifts. Please make your reservations by phone with Carol McDonald at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613.

Blanket Binders event scheduled

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Use your love of quilting to help others and enjoy the fellowship of other sewers. The quilts are given to local people in need. Bring your sewing machine and a dish to share for the potluck lunch.

Experience 'President Lincoln' on his birthday

Celebrate President Lincoln's birthday from 10:15 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Featuring Murray Cox as President Abraham Lincoln. Pre-registration is required if staying for lunch with President Lincoln. The lunch reservation deadline is at noon Monday, Feb. 10. The cost for lunch is \$4.50 for those 60 years of age and under; over 60 by donation.

State of Our Communities to celebrate 2019, share plans for 2020

Grow Wabash County will be hosting the third annual State of Our Communities event on Wednesday, Feb. 12 in Legacy Hall at the Honeywell Center. Breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. and presentations will begin at 8 a.m. The event should conclude around 10 a.m. Sponsorships and tickets are available by registering here: <https://tinyurl.com/wjsGrbj>.

Celebrate February birthdays

February's Birthday Party will

be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Featuring Ellen Mock, vocalist, and Peggy Coppler, pianist. Ice cream and homemade cake will be served. Sign up today for a fun-filled celebration.

Skywarn weather spotter training set

A Skywarn weather spotter training session has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13 at the skating rink at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. Check-in begins at 6:30 p.m. Online registration is available at <https://wabash-spotter.eventzilla.net>. Registration may also be completed by calling 260-563-3181 or 574-834-1104.

Valentine potluck lunch scheduled

Join the Annual Valentine Exchange and Luncheon at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 14, at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Pre-registration is required. The lunch reservation deadline is at noon Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Laketon American Legion Auxiliary plans Valentine's Day dinner

The Laketon American Legion Auxiliary has planned a special Valentine's Day dinner for 4:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14 at 15 N. Main St., Laketon. There will be a choice of prime rib or shrimp, potato, salad, dessert, drink and flower for the ladies for \$12.50. Advance tickets and carry-outs are available. For more information, call 260-306-0162.

Wabash Kiwanis Club's 100th Anniversary Gala planned

The gala will begin with a social hour from 6 to 7 p.m., with the dinner and programs set for 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, at the Honeywell Center's Legacy Hall. For those who can't attend the gala, financial donations of any size for Riley Hospital by individuals, businesses and organizations are also welcomed and appreciated. Checks can be mailed to the Wabash Kiwanis Club at P.O. Box 699, Wabash, IN 46992 with "Riley" in the memo line.

MSD to host community presentation Feb. 17

MSD of Wabash County will be hosting a Community Presentation to share updates on their Strategic Plan at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17 at Northfield Jr./Sr. High School, 154 W. 200 North.

OWENS

From page A1

appointed first by Republican Gov. Robert Orr and then Democrat Gov. Evan Bayh, as Indiana's youngest State Health Commissioner.

"Over the past several months, like thousands of Hoosiers, I have been impressed by Josh Owens and his campaign for governor. His vision and passion for Indiana have been seen around this great state. I'm humbled and honored by his decision from the race so that we can all focus on bringing new leadership to the governor's office to create solutions to benefit every Hoosier this November. I look forward to working with him to bring access to affordable health care, high-quality education and good-paying jobs to Hoosiers throughout Indiana," stated Myers, after Owens' announcement Wednesday.

Republicans respond Indiana Republican Party Chairman Kyle Hupfer, who also serves as the campaign manager of Holcomb's campaign, released a statement Wednesday following Owens' announcement.

"I know Woody Myers has spent a lot of time outside of Indiana the last 30 years, so he doesn't know that Hoosiers like what Republican leadership has meant to our state. Indiana is on

a roll and Governor Holcomb isn't taking his foot off the gas. Unemployment is down, wages are up, job commitments are up and Governor Holcomb is just getting started. He's Putting People First and excited to lead our state for four more years," stated Hupfer.

On Thursday, Dave Rexrode, executive director of the Republican Governors Association (RGA), also released a statement.

"Not only did Democrats fail to recruit a top-tier challenger in Indiana, but two out of their three candidates have been forced to withdraw from the race when it became clear they didn't have the support to mount a campaign. Democrats now find themselves left with a little-known candidate with anemic fundraising and no record or plan on the issues that matter to Hoosiers," he stated. "While Democrats' inability to field a competitive candidate is embarrassing, it is hardly surprising given the successes Indiana is experiencing under Governor Eric Holcomb. From record job commitments to bold workforce development initiatives and historic infrastructure investments, Governor Holcomb is taking the Hoosier State to the next level and has an incredibly strong case to make to the voters for four more years."

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

TAX

From page A1

by calling DOR's Customer Service team. Starting in 2019, customers can also confirm their identities using a one-time passcode verification from their SMS enabled smartphones, making this process simple and quick," stated the release.

Customers who receive an ID verification letter are not suspected of identity theft or having their identity stolen. The process is only used for certain returns to ensure their refund is sent to the correct location and individual. By completing the quiz as soon as the letter is received, there should be little to no delay in return processing.

For more information on the Identity Theft and Fraud Prevention Program, visit any of the 12 district office locations, visit dor.in.gov or call 317-232-2240 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Thank You

The Family of Dan Haupert would like to thank the Wabash County Sherriff Department, Indiana State Police, North Manchester Police Department, Department of Natural Resources, Wabash County EMA, Parkview Health, St Vincent Health, Wabash City Fire Department, North Manchester Fire Department, Chester Township Fire Department, Pleasant Township Fire Department, and Urbana Fire Department for their assistance on the day of Dan's accident. We would also like to thank Poet and CFS for sending their employees and equipment to the scene and Poet for supplying hot drinks to the volunteers. Thank you to the individuals who helped at the scene and the following day with the cleanup, there are too many to thank individually. The response was overwhelming. We appreciate all of you more than words can express.

The Family of Dan Haupert

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact
your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any
Indiana lawmaker,
go to this website:
[www.in.gov/cgi-bin/
legislative/contact/
contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

Matthew 8:10

Trump's 'peace plan' a con, not a deal

Donald Trump's Arab-Israeli peace plan rests upon the absurdity of the Palestinians accepting a state in name alone. Since 1993's Oslo accords, hope had been kindled that a "Palestine" could be created from most of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with its capital in East Jerusalem. The Trump administration's document pays lip service to such an entity while shrinking its size and mutilating its scope to non-existence. It envisages the potential transfer of Palestinian towns out of Israel. It contains a blatant attempt to stop Palestinians seeking justice for war crimes – including those currently underway. Trump boasts he is a dealmaker, offering \$50 billion in investment if Palestinians trade away their civil and national rights. But Palestinians see a conman with no intention of making good on empty promises.

This proposal is a sop to right-wing ideologues in the US and Israel. It ends the charade that Trump could play a mediating role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, has good reason to think his visit to Washington is his finest hour. He once warned Israel would be in mortal danger if a viable Palestine existed alongside it. The indications are Netanyahu's cabinet will vote in

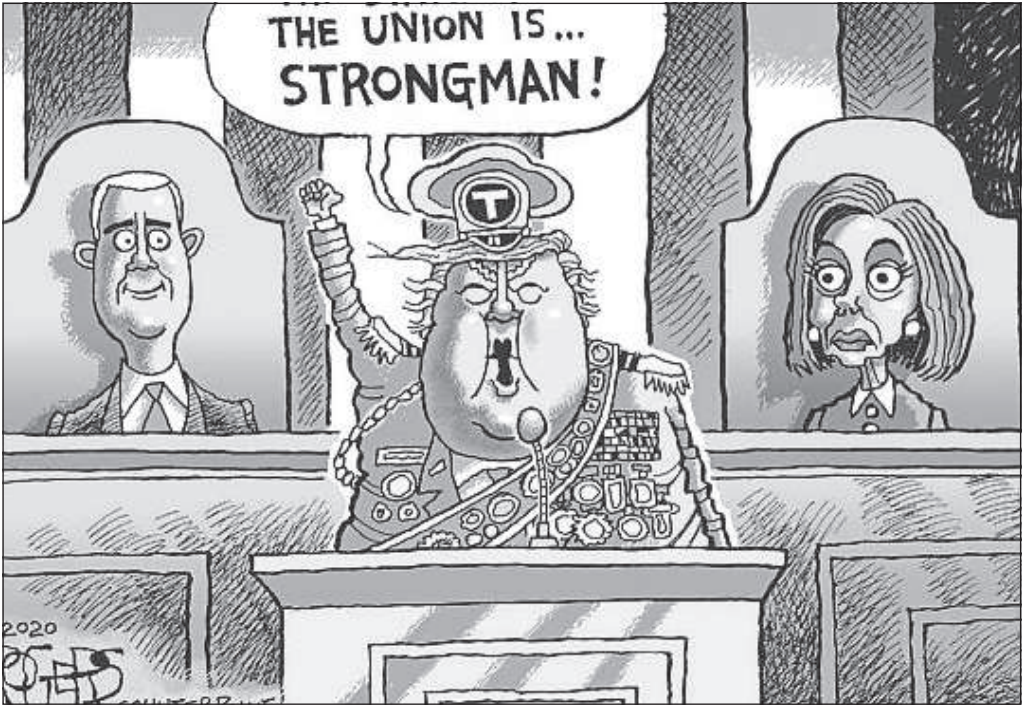
days to begin annexing all settlements in the West Bank as well as the Jordan Valley. The old gibe against the Palestinians – that they never missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity for peace – is singularly inappropriate. Trump's blatant support for Israel and his snub of the Palestinians in drafting his plan has let Netanyahu do whatever he wants.

This looks like a transparent attempt by Trump to help Netanyahu, who faces a trial for bribery and fraud, in upcoming Israeli elections. With an impeachment trial in the Senate, Trump will also help himself with his plan – by rallying pro-Israeli evangelical support. The Trump plan does have the virtue of diminishing the distance between the situation on the ground and euphemisms deployed to describe it. Israel controls the land between the Jordan river and the Mediterranean Sea. If two viable states cannot be constructed in the Holy Land, the status quo will cement a one-state reality or perpetual occupation. Israel's attempt to remain Jewish and democratic while controlling a space in which Arabs are as numerous as Jews is a quandary. The dilemma is how to retain a strong Jewish majority, all the land and a full democracy. Israel can live with such contradictions as long

as Trump allows international law to be flouted with impunity.

Half a century of occupation has led to a system of institutionalized discrimination against Palestinians. Israel will seize on the fact Washington has ignored UN resolutions and endorsed its brutal, unlawful policies. Trump wants to create new facts on the ground. Without Palestinian backing, some Arab states may be lukewarm about the plan. A two-state solution was the result of American peacemaking within a rules-based world order, which Trump detests because it is inimical to the raw power that he prefers to govern global affairs. Outside the European Union, the UK's foreign policy will become hostage to such an approach. London's welcome of Trump's "serious proposal" is as depressing as it is predictable. The US annexation proposals should be rejected and the illegality of Israeli settlements reiterated. Peace won't last without acceptance of past wrongs. Washington once championed international law to manage global relations. It now promotes the law of the jungle, where every country fends for itself. We are present at the creation of dangerous times in the world, not just in the Middle East.

This editorial was first published in The Guardian.



Catalan secessionists ladle a soup of fiction and paranoia

Beneath the sleek surface of this sparkling Mediterranean metropolis boil passions generated by Spain's version of identity politics. The passions are aroused by demagogues who hope to shatter a nation. The turmoil in Catalonia – the northeastern of Spain's 17 regions, which exercise considerable autonomy (over police, health care, education, etc.) – is the toll taken by

George Will



lies used to manufacture grievances. This is pertinent to the United (for now) Kingdom, and wherever populist resentment-mongers stoke feelings of victimization. The illegal 2017 referendum staged by Catalan secessionists (some are in jail or in exile to avoid trial) yielded a muddy result: The organizers claimed that 90 percent voted for independence, but turnout was only 43 percent. Many boycotted the voting because of its illegality. Nevertheless, 26 days later, the Catalan parliament declared independence. However, on Nov. 10, 2019, in the fourth national election in four years, only 42.5 percent of Catalans supported pro-independence parties. Nevertheless, secessionist leaders will continue to feed to the gullible fictions such as these:

Catalans have more "genetic proximity" to the French than to Spaniards. Madrid is "ripping off" and "strangling" Catalonia. Every year every Catalan family sends to Madrid enough money to buy a car. (Catalonia, which contributes 19 percent to Spain's GDP and 19 percent of national revenues, has 16 percent of the nation's population, and receives about 15 percent of disbursed national revenues.) Madrid elites despise

Catalans. (A banner on a balcony here: "Independence means dignity.") Having five Catalans among the 11 starters in Spain's 2010 World Cup-winning soccer team was a plot to subvert Catalan independence by inspiring national sentiment. And so on.

What makes secessionists think a soup of fictions and paranoia will be swallowed? In Britain, the most potent factoid in the 2016 Brexit campaign that won 52 percent approval was that the U.K. sends to the European Union 350 million pounds (\$455 million) a week that otherwise could go to the National Health Service. This propelled Boris Johnson, who has always been parsimonious with truth, into office as the queen's first minister. In Scotland, where a 62 percent majority opposed Brexit, a large minority feels, as Catalonia's secessionists do, that they are a nation without a state. In a referendum two years before Brexit, 45 percent of Scots favored independence. That might not have been the last such referendum.

Catalan secessionists bowdlerize history in order to weaponize it. At 17 minutes and 14 seconds into FC Barcelona soccer games, independence-minded fans roar. Never mind that 1714 did not, as secessionists insist, end Catalan independence. It ended a war, with few Catalan participants, between two factions supporting rivals for the Spanish throne in Madrid. Secessionists recast the 1936-1939 civil war as a regional conflict between Spain and Catalonia rather than a maelstrom of political pathologies (fascism, communism, anarchism, anti-clericalism).

When Woodrow Wilson proclaimed a right of "self-determination," Secretary of State Robert Lansing saw dragon's teeth being sown: "What has he in mind?"

Does he mean a race, a territorial area, or a community?" Or perhaps a linguistic cohort? Catalonia's primary and secondary schools devote more than 12 times more hours to teaching the Catalan language – Francisco Franco's dictatorship (1939-1975) tried to extinguish it – than to teaching Spanish. Catalonia's public television, which is watched by 84 percent of those who voted for independence, promotes independence.

Catalans should study Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural address, delivered after seven states had voted to secede: "Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments," none of which "ever had a provision in its organic law for its own termination." Lincoln refuted the South's "contract" theory of the American union: Can a contract "be peaceably unmade by less than all the parties who made it?" Catalonia has no such theory: It never was a sovereign contracting entity. Furthermore, Spain's constitution, which says the nation is "indivisible," was ratified by a 1978 referendum of the national electorate, wherein 90.5 percent of Catalonia's 70 percent turnout approved it – higher support than in Madrid or the entire nation.

A minority of the 7.5 million Catalans – one-third of whom were born elsewhere – will continue to seethe about being a "stateless nation," and will remain as prickly as when, centuries ago, people of this region swore this oath to Spain's ruler: "We who are as good as you swear to you who are no better than us, to accept you as our king and sovereign lord, provided you observe all our laws and liberties; but if not, not." Spain, however, will not fragment.

George Will's email address is george-will@washpost.com.

LETTERS

10,000 Internships and Counting

In the waning hours of 2019, Indiana INTERNnet (IIN) officially reached the milestone of 10,000 completed internships between its students and employers. The true number is likely quite a bit higher as post-internship follow-up pales in comparison to actual connections and experiences.

But the number is significant. That's 10,000 opportunities for students and others to learn about Indiana communities and careers. That's 10,000 instances of enthusiastic talent being put in place to help solve workplace challenges. And we know many of those interns became full-time employees and long-term contributors to Indiana's economic success.

The 10,000 number will grow, as will IIN's offerings. Continued expansion beyond college interns will bring more high school students, as well as adults looking to advance or change careers, into the fold. We will add to the experiences, facilitating longer-term opportunities, up to and including apprenticeships. On the shorter end of the time scale, job shadows for students and teacher externships are on the horizon.

The same technology that has helped make the 10,000-plus internship connections possible will allow for this expansion. That is accompanied by a high-touch approach – working directly with students, employers and educators throughout the state.

Internship excellence will be celebrated through the 14th annual IMPACT Awards on Feb. 18. Even greater successes, however, are yet to come. Learn more at www.indianaintern.net.

Smoking cessation treatment works and is critical

On Jan. 23, the Surgeon General released "Smoking Cessation: A Report of the Surgeon General." Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) applauds the Surgeon General for once again leading the fight against tobacco addiction, disease and death. In particular, Dr. Jerome Adams and his staff should be commended for making it clear that access to treatment greatly improves success in quitting and that providing access is a critical component in the fight to end the tobacco epidemic.

For too long, cessation has been the ugly stepchild of the tobacco control movement and the nation's public health priorities. There are several reasons for this: confidence that the epidemic can be ended by preventing youth uptake, a misunderstanding that cessation treatment is costly, and a thinly-veiled belief that adult smokers brought it upon themselves.

We have made great strides in reducing youth tobacco use (although the vaping crisis threatens to undermine that success). But victory over big tobacco requires fighting on all fronts, as outlined in the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). We cannot expect to win without large numbers of adult smokers quitting, and many can't quit without therapy.

Even where access to cessation is available, it is inexplicably limited. Many health plans that cover nicotine replacement therapy impose strict time limits, even though it is in their own financial interest to help smokers quit. Most smokers want to quit, but many are highly addicted to nicotine and can't do so cold turkey or on their first try. As the Report highlights, several quit attempts are often required.

While the benefit of cessation for smokers is obvious, society as a whole profit from smokers becoming non-smokers. Smoking costs the country over \$300 billion annually, and much of that cost is borne by governments, meaning taxpayers. As Dr. Adams shared today, every American pays roughly \$1,000 every year to cover the national cost of smoking.

It is imperative to stop seeing smokers as the perpetrators of the tobacco epidemic. As the Report notes, nearly all started in adolescence and became hooked on a product that was engineered to be as addictive as possible. Children cannot sign contracts, vote, or rent a car; legal authority comes at the age of 18 for a reason. Certainly, a middle schooler cannot consent to become a nicotine addict. The blame for the tobacco epidemic rests squarely on the tobacco industry, but governments bear some responsibility for allowing a product that is addictive and kills when used as intended to be sold in nearly every corner store.

The human right to health – which is well recognized in international law – says that every human has the right to the highest attainable standard of health. In a rich society like the U.S., access to smoking cessation treatment is certainly attainable. We also have a duty under human rights to seek equity in human development, especially for vulnerable populations. Racial minorities and the LGBT community have been particularly targeted by tobacco industry marketing, and consequently, suffer disproportionately from the tobacco epidemic.

Worship

Pope, with eye to Argentine debt, urges financial solidarity

The next big meeting is scheduled for the central Italian town of Assisi in March, and is aimed at sensitizing young people to the need for "a new economy" that respects the environment and looks out for the poor.

Wars and rumors of war

George Fox, the founder of the Friends movement, described it as the Lamb's War. It is a war that took Jesus to the cross. This war may not use bombs, guns and toxic gases, but it leaves every human being

No one has to teach us to do these things, it is within us. Yes, we are created in God's image so there is good as well. However, if we do not face the reality of the darkness in our hearts, it takes the power out of the good. We will do good things for the wrong motives and with the wrong attitudes. I like

The third is the battle with the “prince of this world” and his army of fallen angels (Ephesians 6:12).

His name is Satan or Lucifer or Devil; just a few of his names. He can appear as an angel of light. He is skilled at making harmful things look good and inviting. He deceives, discourages, divides, and seeks to destroy all that is good in you and in the world. Sometimes he whispers in our ear; sometimes he shouts, seeking to drown out the voice of God and of the wise and faithful people who speak grace and truth to us. He cultivates doubt in us about God, about the Bible, and about the value of who we truly are. However, his power is limited. One can give him too much credit and not take responsibility for his attitudes and actions. One can deny his existence. Both ideas are dangerous in the battle. How aware are you of the power and activity of Satan in your

This war is ongoing until the day Jesus comes and makes all things right. So, be faithful and wise. Seek after the things of God daily, be faithful to Jesus and His Word. Be wise as a serpent. Let God's Holy Spirit and Word create wisdom in your life. Check out the whole book of Ephesians this week. Do not go into battle alone. Find faithful and wise servants of Jesus to walk with you and fight for you. Go together into the world and struggle for the hearts of men and women, boys and girls, that they might find love, hope and victory in this war-torn world. Some day it will be all right. Do not lose heart. Stay in the battle until the victory is won.

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Church Directory

ASSEMBLY OF GOD


Gospel Light Assembly of God, 347 Southwood Drive. Pastor Neil Jeffrey. Sunday School 9:45am (all ages). Morning worship service 10:30am. Evening service 6pm. Wednesday midweek service 7pm; Kids' Korral Wednesday 7pm. Youth meeting 7pm (ages 12-19).

 **Sweetwater Assembly of God**, 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade).

BAPTIST

Emmanuel Free Will Baptist, 129 Southwood Drive. Pastor Terry Hinds. (260) 563-3009. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm; Children's Church 10:30am. Wednesday morning prayer service 11am. Wednesday Prayer meeting 6pm. Transportation available.

Southside Free Will Baptist, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm.

 **Wabash Free Will Baptist Church**, 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

CATHOLIC

 **St. Bernard Catholic Church**, corner of Cass & Sinclair. Father Levi Nkwocha. Saturday Mass 5:30pm. Sunday Masses 9:30am. Tues. & Thurs. 9am; 8:15am during school year. Weekday Masses: Mon., Wed., Fri. 5:30pm; Tues. & Thurs., 9am. Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:15-5:15pm Saturday or by appointment (260) 563-4750.


 **St. Patrick's Catholic Church**, Main Street in Lagro. Holy Mass 12:30pm the 1st Sunday of the month except January and February.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

 **Christian Heritage Church**, 2776 River Road. (260) 774-3016. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm.

LaFontaine Christian Church, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine. Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Sunday School 9am, Worship 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available.


CHURCH OF CHRIST

 **Church of Christ**, Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.


CHURCH OF GOD

First Church of God, 525 N. Miami Street. Pastor Robert Rensberger. (260) 563-5346. Sunday School at 9:15am, for all ages. Continental breakfast at 10am. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am. Nursery care is available during worship service. Stair lift available.


CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

 **Wabash Church of the Brethren**, 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Interim, Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus...Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

 **Wabash Christian Church**, 110 W Hill Street. Rev. Haley Asberry, Minister. (260) 563-4179. Worship 9:30am. Sunday School 11am. Nursery provided.

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH


 **Bachelor Creek Church of Christ**, 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Solomon David, Lead Minister; Michael Eaton, Worship Minister; Ken Goble, Senior Adults Minister; Taylor McSarland, Women's Director; David Diener, Student Minister; Tyler Leland, Children's Minister; Nate Tlyer, Youth & Outreach Minister; Ryan Keim, Next Step Minister; Janet Legesse, Early Childhood Director. NOW OFFERING 2 SERVICE TIMES. Adult Bible Fellowship & Worship, 9:15am, 10:45am.


LUTHERAN

 **Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC)**, 242 S Huntington St. Wabash IN. Pastor Tom Curry. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 am with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship and a time of fellowship after each service. Wednesday evenings include soup supper at 6:00 pm followed by an informal service at 7:00 pm. www.LivingFaithWabash.org


Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST

 **First United Methodist Church**, 110 N Cass Street. Senior Pastor Nathan Whybrew, Pastor of Visitation Rev. John Cook. Youth Pastor Nick Smith. Director of Children's Ministry Angel Hostetler. (260) 563-3108. Sunday Schedule: 8 & 10am Worship Service. 9am Teen & Adult Sunday School & Children's faith learning. 10:15am Sunday School for Pre-School thru 5th Grade following Children's Message (except for 1st Sunday each month). First Friends Early Learning Ministry: age 4 weeks thru 12 years 6am to 6pm weekdays. Carolyn Satterfield, Director. Wesley Academy Pre-School: age 3 through Pre-K. Susan Vanlandingham, Director.

 **North Manchester United Methodist Church**, 306 E Second Street, North Manchester. Pastor Mark Eastway. (260) 982-7537. Worship Service 8:15am & 10:30am. Coffee Fellowship 9am. Sunday School 9:30am.

Richvalley United Methodist Church, 290 N Jefferson. (260) 563-1033. Worship service begins at 9:30am. Nursery available. Sunday School begins at 10:45am for all ages.

 **Roann United Methodist Church**, Corner of Adams and Arnold Street, Roann. Pastor Wayne Balmer. (765) 833-2931. Worship Celebration 9am. Sunday School 10:15am.



TRIED AND TRUE



Two brothers inherited a fortune to be divided equally. One brother invested his half in a glamorous product, touted to become a huge success. The other trusted his wealth to a “tried and true” staple. The glamorous new product enjoyed magical success for a time, but eventually failed and the fortune was lost. The sales of the more practical and proven product continued on a steady scale and the fortune was doubled. There is no magic formula for success. Invest your faith in the “tried and true.” God is “the same yesterday and today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8) Attend His house and worship every week.

| Daily Bible Reading | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Deut. 5:1-22 | Deut. 6:1-25 | John 3:1-21 | John 3:22-36 | John 4:1-26 | John 4:27-42 |
| Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society X Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org | | | | | |
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Postponements

Due to weather on Thursday, multiple basketball games were postponed. The Manchester-Northfield boys' basketball game was postponed to Tuesday, Feb. 11. The Southwood-Rochester boys' basketball game was postponed until Saturday afternoon with the JV game set to start at noon.

No charges to be sought after Iowa marching band allegations

AMES, Iowa (AP) — University leaders have determined there's not enough evidence to pursue charges stemming from allegations that University of Iowa marching band members were targets of abuse during last season's football game at Iowa State University.

Members of the Hawkeye Marching Band allege that they were subjected to racial slurs and other verbal abuse as well as sexual harassment before, during and after the Sept. 14 contest at Jack Trice Stadium in Ames.

Iowa Board of Regents President Mike Richards said in a news release Wednesday that the two universities' presidents, lawyers and police chiefs had discussed the investigation and decided not to seek charges.

N.Y. Court rules fantasy sports contests are illegal gambling

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Daily fantasy sports contests like those operated by FanDuel and DraftKings face an uncertain future in New York after an appellate court ruled Thursday that the activity amounts to illegal gambling.

The court upheld a previous decision that ruled daily fantasy sports violated the state constitution's ban on gambling and that the Legislature unlawfully authorized the activity in 2016 by classifying it as a game of skill, not chance.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed a bill into law in 2016 that cleared the way for companies like DraftKings and FanDuel to operate and be regulated in New York. The two fantasy sports companies had agreed to suspend their operations in New York earlier that year in a settlement with then-Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, who said their businesses amounted to illegal gambling.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

- Emailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.
 - Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.
 - Mailed into *Plain Dealer*, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.
- Organizations or individuals emailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.



Jacob Rude / Plain Dealer

Northfield's Emma Hoover dribbles into the lane during the Norse's game against Rochester earlier this season.

Rematches, county clashes set for sectional semi-final

By JACOB RUDE

sports@wabashplaindealer.com

After opening-round blowouts in the sectional earlier in the week, competition heats up in the sectional semi-finals on Friday. At North Miami, the Norse will look to avenge its most recent loss while Southwood looks for a return trip to the sectional final while Manchester and Wabash square off for their own spot in the championship match.

Northfield (17-6) vs. North Miami (17-5), 7:30 p.m.

The regular season meet-

ing between these two sides featured fireworks and led to a frenetic finish in the conference. Bailey Keim's 27 points led the Warriors to a one-point win over the Norse.

Keim ended the regular season on a tear, averaging 24.5 points per game over the final six games highlighted by her career-high 34 points in a regular season finale win over Southwood, 59-30. As a team, the Warriors closed the year on an eight-game winning streak.

Northfield, meanwhile, is riding a five-game win streak into the contest after Tuesday's 58-36 win in the sectional opener.

The two sides are marginally separated in the Sagarin rating, North Miami ranked 11th at 65.72 and Northfield 12th at 64.22.

Emma Hoover and Addi Baker lead the Norse offensively this season, the former averaging 11.7 points per game and the latter 11.1. Baker pulls down 6.9 rebounds per game and Hoover averages 2.7 assists per contest.

Kearston Stout is third on the team in scoring at 9.3 points per game while averaging 5.4 rebounds per contest. As a team, the Norse average 28.7 rebounds per game.

Northfield won its section-

al last season on its path to the semi-state. North Miami fell to Oak Hill in its sectional opener as the Eagles kicked off their run to a state title.

Southwood (6-16) vs. Lakeland Christian (10-13), 6 p.m.

The Knight girls' basketball team heads into Friday's sectional opener with a chance to return to the sectional final for the second consecutive season. Lakeland Christian enters with 10 wins on the season but is ranked 67th in Class A's

See **CLASHES**, page B2

Baldwin gives Butler win over Villanova

Buzzer-beating 3-pointer lifts Bulter to 79-76 win

By MICHAEL MAROT

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Kamar Baldwin made a buzzer-beating 3-pointer and scored 17 points, giving No. 19 Butler a 79-76 victory over No. 10 Villanova on Wednesday night.

The Bulldogs (18-5, 6-4) snapped a five-game losing streak in the series as

Sean McDermott scored 21 points and Bryce Golden added a career high 18 points. The game was delayed for nearly 15 minutes in the first half when the roof of 92-year-old Hinkle Fieldhouse sprung a leak.

Maintenance workers got the water stopped and the floor dried.

Villanova (17-5, 7-3) rallied from a 10-point deficit in the final six minutes, tying the score on Saddiq Bey's 3-pointer with 24 seconds to go.

The Bulldogs did not call timeout and let Baldwin nearly dribble out the clock

before he taking the 3 just before time expired, connecting on a shot from the right wing beyond the arc.

Bey had 29 points and six rebounds while Collin Gillespie added 28 points and six assists. The Wildcats have lost two in a row for the first time this season after winning seven straight.

BIG PICTURE

Villanova: The Wildcats defense is not playing well. After giving up 76 points in Saturday's loss, their highest point total since Nov. 24, they allowed Butler to score 79. Villanova certainly

packs some scoring punch, but it could be a short post-season if it doesn't improve defensively by March.

Butler: Aaron Thompson's return from an injured left wrist certainly made a difference. He scored nine points and his presence helped the Bulldogs defense. Thompson managed to get Butler's offense back in sync, too.

STAT PACK

Villanova: Jeremiah Robinson-Earl had nine points and four rebounds. ... The

See **BUTLER**, page B2

Purdue routs No. 17 Iowa 104-68 in offensive outburst

By MARK AMBROGI

Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Evan Boudreaux scored a season-high 18 points to lead five Purdue players in double figures in a 104-68 rout against No. 17 Iowa in on Wednesday night.

Boudreaux hit 7 of 9 shots and had a team-high eight rebounds

Jahaad Proctor, Matt Haarms and Sasha Stefanovic each scored 15 points for the Boilermakers (13-10, 6-6 Big Ten). Proctor made all six of his shots. Purdue's Eric Hunter Jr. added 13 points and a team-high seven assists.

The Boilermakers shot a season-high 63 percent and reached the 100-point mark for the first time this season.

Luka Garza led the Hawkeyes (16-7, 7-5) with 26 points and was their only player in double figures.

Purdue dominated from the start and led by as many as 39 points.

The Boilermakers made 11 of 20 3-pointers in the first half to take a 61-36 halftime lead. Purdue shot 65 percent in the first half.

Iowa shot 43 percent for the game and 24 percent from 3-point range.

The Boilermakers had just two turnovers in the opening half and nine for the game. Iowa had 14 turnovers.

After Iowa's Garza scored the opening basket, Purdue scored 17 unanswered points to take command for good.

The Boilermakers went on a 9-0 run, including six points on Proctor's back-to-back 3-pointers, to push the lead to 39-18.

BIG PICTURE

Iowa: The Hawkeyes are struggling on the road in the conference. They had won four of the previous five games, but all of those victories were at home. Iowa dropped to 1-5 in Big Ten road games.

Purdue: The Boilermakers had quite a night offensively after being held to 37 points in one loss and 50 in another setback last month and averaging 62 points over their previous two games.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Iowa will drop in the rankings after the lopsided loss. How much the team falls in the poll will depend on how the Hawkeyes do against Nebraska.

UP NEXT

Iowa: Hosts the Cornhuskers on Saturday night.

Purdue: Plays Indiana on the road Saturday, aiming for a sixth straight win in the rivalry.

See **IRISH**, page B2

Gibbs' 21, Mooney's double-double lead Irish past Panthers

By JOHN FINERAN

Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — After T.J. Gibbs and John Mooney kept the offense rolling in a third straight home victory, Mike Brey is anxious to see how his Notre Dame team fares in the heart of the Atlantic Coast Conference's Tobacco Road.

"Johnny and the guys talk about February being our month; I'm on the train, too," Brey said after Gibbs scored a game-high 21 points and Mooney had 17 points and

10 rebounds for his 18th double-double Wednesday in Notre Dame's 80-72 victory over Pittsburgh.

"I think our frame of mind ... how we're playing ... I'm excited about it," Brey said as Notre Dame (14-8, 5-6 ACC) begins a three-game, seven-day stretch that will take them to Clemson Sunday, Virginia Tuesday and Duke a week from Saturday.

Gibbs, who hit 8-of-13 shots including 5-of-8 from the 3-point line as Notre Dame made 10 of 27 (37 percent), is excited as the

Irish shot 46 percent overall and won the rebound battle 40-34 against the Panthers (14-9, 5-7).

"I don't want to say too much because I don't want to jinx it," Gibbs said. "It starts on the defensive end. We have to come out with the same energy, the same intensity."

Mooney scored 17 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, while 6-foot-11 center Julian Durham had 11 points on 5-for-5 shooting, plus three blocks in 19 minutes and Nate Laszewski added

11 points off the bench. The Irish led by as many as 19 points.

Justin Champagnie had 20 points, Xavier Johnson 17 and Trey McGowens 15 for the Panthers (14-9, 5-7).

"Notre Dame is a really, really good offensive team," Pittsburgh coach Jeff Capel said of the Irish. "They got into a good rhythm in the first half that gave them separation, and you can't give a team that shoots so well seven 3s in the first half. That's what hurt us."

Prentiss Hubb, who had

nine points and seven assists, hit his second 3-pointer of the first half with one second remaining to give Notre Dame a 42-33 halftime lead. Gibbs had 11 points, Laszewski contributed nine and Mooney had eight for the Irish, who shot 14 of 28 from the floor despite enduring a 4:20 drought.

The Irish built the lead to 11 early in the second half. After Pitt drew within 49-44, the Irish went on a 9-0 run over 1:52 with a three-point

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

| ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|---|------|-----------|----|------|
| | Conference | | | All Games | | |
| | W | L | Pct | W | L | Pct |
| Louisville | 11 | 1 | .917 | 20 | 3 | .870 |
| Duke | 9 | 2 | .818 | 19 | 3 | .864 |
| Florida St. | 9 | 2 | .818 | 19 | 3 | .864 |
| Virginia | 7 | 4 | .636 | 15 | 6 | .714 |
| Syracuse | 6 | 5 | .545 | 13 | 9 | .591 |
| NC State | 6 | 6 | .500 | 15 | 8 | .652 |
| Notre Dame | 5 | 6 | .455 | 14 | 8 | .636 |
| Pittsburgh | 5 | 7 | .417 | 14 | 9 | .609 |
| Virginia Tech | 5 | 7 | .417 | 14 | 9 | .609 |
| Clemson | 5 | 7 | .417 | 11 | 11 | .500 |
| Boston College | 5 | 7 | .417 | 11 | 12 | .478 |
| Georgia Tech | 5 | 7 | .417 | 11 | 12 | .478 |
| North Carolina | 3 | 8 | .273 | 10 | 12 | .455 |
| Miami | 3 | 9 | .250 | 11 | 11 | .500 |
| Wake Forest | 3 | 9 | .250 | 10 | 12 | .455 |

Wednesday's Games
Notre Dame 80, Pittsburgh 72
Virginia 51, Clemson 44
NC State 83, Miami 72
Louisville 86, Wake Forest 76

Saturday's Games
Miami at Florida St., Noon
Boston College at Virginia Tech, Noon
Georgia Tech at Pittsburgh, 2 p.m.
Virginia at Louisville, 4 p.m.
Duke at North Carolina, 6 p.m.
Wake Forest at Syracuse, 6 p.m.

| BIG EAST CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|---|------|-----------|----|------|
| | Conference | | | All Games | | |
| | W | L | Pct | W | L | Pct |
| Seton Hall | 9 | 1 | .900 | 17 | 5 | .773 |
| Villanova | 7 | 3 | .700 | 17 | 5 | .773 |
| Butler | 6 | 4 | .600 | 18 | 5 | .783 |
| Creighton | 6 | 4 | .600 | 17 | 6 | .739 |
| Marquette | 6 | 4 | .600 | 16 | 6 | .727 |
| Providence | 6 | 4 | .600 | 13 | 10 | .565 |
| Xavier | 4 | 6 | .400 | 15 | 8 | .652 |
| Georgetown | 3 | 7 | .300 | 13 | 10 | .565 |
| St. John's | 2 | 8 | .200 | 13 | 10 | .565 |
| DePaul | 1 | 9 | .100 | 13 | 10 | .565 |

Wednesday's Games
Butler 79, Villanova 76
Providence 73, Creighton 56
Seton Hall 78, Georgetown 71

Saturday's Games
DePaul at Georgetown, Noon
Seton Hall at Villanova, 2:30 p.m.
St. John's at Creighton, 6 p.m.
Providence at Xavier, 8 p.m.

| BIG TEN CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------|----|------|-----------|----|------|
| | Conference | | | All Games | | |
| | W | L | Pct | W | L | Pct |
| Maryland | 8 | 3 | .727 | 18 | 4 | .818 |
| Illinois | 8 | 3 | .727 | 16 | 6 | .727 |
| Michigan St. | 8 | 4 | .667 | 16 | 7 | .696 |
| Penn St. | 7 | 4 | .636 | 17 | 5 | .773 |
| Iowa | 7 | 5 | .583 | 16 | 7 | .696 |
| Rutgers | 7 | 5 | .583 | 16 | 7 | .696 |
| Purdue | 6 | 6 | .500 | 13 | 10 | .565 |
| Wisconsin | 6 | 6 | .500 | 13 | 10 | .565 |
| Minnesota | 6 | 6 | .500 | 12 | 10 | .545 |
| Indiana | 5 | 6 | .455 | 15 | 7 | .682 |
| Ohio St. | 5 | 6 | .455 | 15 | 7 | .682 |
| Michigan | 4 | 7 | .364 | 13 | 9 | .591 |
| Nebraska | 2 | 9 | .182 | 17 | 15 | .318 |
| Northwestern | 1 | 10 | .091 | 6 | 15 | .286 |

Wednesday's Games
Purdue 104, Iowa 68
Minnesota 70, Wisconsin 52

Today's Game
Maryland at Illinois, 8 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Michigan St. at Michigan, Noon
Purdue at Indiana, 2 p.m.
Minnesota at Penn St., 4 p.m.
Nebraska at Iowa, 6 p.m.

Wednesday's Men's Results

PURDUE 104, NO. 17 IOWA 68

IOWA (16-7)
Garza 10-17 5-7 26, Fredrick 3-6 0-0 8, C.McCaffery 0-5 0-0 0, Toussaint 0-2 2-2 2, Wieskamp 3-8 1-2 8, Evelyn 1-4 1-2 4, Kriener 4-8 1-2 9, Pemsli 0-1 6-6 6, Till 1-1 0-0 2, Ash 1-2 0-0 3, Baer 0-0 0-0 0, Hobbs 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 23-54 16-21 68.

PURDUE (13-10)
Boudreaux 7-9 0-0 18, Williams 4-6 1-3 9, Eastern 1-1 0-0 2, Hunter 5-12 0-0 13, Stefanovic 5-11 0-0 15, Proctor 6-6 0-0 15, Haarms 6-8 2-5 15, Thompson 0-3 0-0 0, Wheeler 4-5 0-0 9, Dowuona 1-1 0-0 2, Luce 2-3 0-0 6, Frost 0-0 0-0 0, Wulbrun 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 41-65 3-8 104.

Halftime—Purdue 61-36, 3-Point Goals—Villanova 6-25 (Fredrick 2-2, Ash 1-2, Evelyn 1-4, Garza 1-4, Wieskamp 1-5, Pemsli 0-1, Toussaint 0-1, Kriener 0-2, C.McCaffery 0-4), Purdue 19-34 (Stefanovic 5-9, Boudreaux 4-6, Proctor 3-3, Hunter 3-8, Luce 2-3, Haarms 1-1, Wheeler 1-2, Thompson 0-2). Rebounds—Iowa 19 (Wieskamp, Kriener 4), Purdue 30 (Boudreaux 8). Assists—Iowa 13 (Evelyn 5), Purdue 29 (Hunter 7). Total Fouls—Iowa 14, Purdue 17. A—14,804 (14,846).

NO. 19 BUTLER 79 NO. 10 VILLANOVA 76

VILLANOVA (17-5)
Bey 11-20 2-3 29, Robinson-Earl 2-6 5-6 9, Samuels 1-2 0-0 2, Gillespie 9-19 7-10 28, Moore 2-5 0-0 5, Cosby-Roundtree 1-2 1-2 3, Swider 0-1 0-0 0, Slater 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-55 15-21 76.

BUTLER (18-5)
Golden 9-12 0-2 18, McDermott 7-8 4-4 21, Nze 5-8 2-3 12, Baldwin 5-15 4-4 17, Thompson 4-6 1-2 9, Tucker 0-3 2-2 2, Baddeley 0-0 0-0 0, Smits 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-52 13-17 79.

Halftime—Butler 42-38, 3-Point Goals—Villanova 9-17 (Bey 5-8, Gillespie 3-7, Moore 1-1, Robinson-Earl 0-1). Butler 6-13 (McDermott 3-3, Baldwin 3-6, Golden 0-1, Tucker 0-3). Rebounds—Villanova 24 (Samuels 7), Butler 29 (McDermott, Baldwin 8). Assists—Villanova 8 (Gillespie 6), Butler 10 (Golden, Baldwin 3). Total Fouls—Villanova 19, Butler 19. A—8,814 (9,100).

NOTRE DAME 80, PITTSBURGH 72

PITTSBURGH (14-9)
Hamilton 2-3 0-0 4, Johnson 5-9 5-8 17, McGowens 5-9 3-4 15, Champagne 8-20 2-2 20, Toney 3-9 2-2 9, Brown 2-6 0-0 4, Drumgole 1-3 0-0 3, Coulibaly 0-2 0-0 0, Ezekuado 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 26-62 12-16 72.

NOTRE DAME (14-8)
Durham 5-5 1-2 11, Mooney 8-18 0-0 17, Gibbs 8-13 0-0 21, Hubb 3-9 1-1 9, Pflueger 1-5 0-0 3, Goodwin 2-10 2-2 6, Laszewski 3-5 4-5 11, Djogo 0-0 2-2 2. Totals 30-65 10-12 80.

Halftime—Notre Dame 42-33, 3-Point Goals—Pittsburgh 8-19 (Johnson 2-3, McGowens 2-4, Champagne 2-5, Drumgole 1-2, Toney 1-5). Notre Dame 10-27 (Gibbs 5-8, Hubb 2-7, Laszewski 1-2, Mooney 1-3, Pflueger 1-4, Goodwin 0-3). Rebounds—Pittsburgh 32 (Champagne 11), Notre Dame 34 (Mooney 10). Assists—Pittsburgh 13 (McGowens 5), Notre Dame 19 (Hubb 7). Total Fouls—Pittsburgh 12, Notre Dame 13. A—6,534 (9,149).

NBA

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Atlantic Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Toronto | 37 | 14 | .725 | — |
| Boston | 35 | 15 | .700 | 1½ |
| Philadelphia | 31 | 20 | .608 | 6 |
| Brooklyn | 23 | 27 | .460 | 13½ |
| New York | 15 | 36 | .294 | 22 |
| Southeast Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Miami | 34 | 16 | .680 | — |
| Orlando | 22 | 29 | .431 | 12½ |
| Washington | 17 | 32 | .347 | 16½ |
| Charlotte | 16 | 35 | .314 | 18½ |
| Atlanta | 14 | 38 | .269 | 21 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Milwaukee | 43 | 7 | .860 | — |
| Indiana | 31 | 20 | .608 | 12½ |
| Chicago | 19 | 33 | .365 | 25 |
| Detroit | 19 | 34 | .358 | 25½ |
| Cleveland | 13 | 39 | .250 | 31 |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
| Southwest Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Houston | 32 | 18 | .640 | — |
| Dallas | 31 | 20 | .608 | 1½ |
| Memphis | 26 | 25 | .510 | 6½ |
| San Antonio | 22 | 28 | .440 | 10 |
| New Orleans | 20 | 31 | .392 | 12½ |
| Northwest Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Denver | 36 | 16 | .692 | — |
| Utah | 32 | 18 | .640 | 4½ |
| Oklahoma City | 31 | 20 | .608 | 4½ |
| Portland | 23 | 28 | .451 | 12½ |
| Minnesota | 15 | 35 | .300 | 20 |
| Pacific Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| L.A. Lakers | 38 | 11 | .776 | — |
| L.A. Clippers | 36 | 15 | .706 | 3 |
| Phoenix | 20 | 31 | .392 | 19 |

ON THE AIR

| AUTO RACING | |
|---|---|
| 6 p.m. | FS1 — NHRA: Lucas Oil Winterationals, Qualifying, Pomona, Calif. |
| COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) | |
| 5 p.m. | ESPNU — Harvard at Yale |
| 7 p.m. | CBSSN — Kent State at Northern Illinois |
| ESP2 — Davidon at Virginia Commonwealth | |
| ESPNU — Niagara at Manhattan | |
| 8 p.m. | FS1 — Maryland at Illinois |
| 9 p.m. | ESP2 — South Alabama at Troy |
| ESPNU — Central Michigan at Buffalo | |
| COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S) | |
| 7 p.m. | FS2 — Marquette at Seton Hall |
| 9 p.m. | PAC-12N — Arizona at Oregon |
| 11 p.m. | PAC-12N — UCLA at Stanford |
| COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN'S) | |
| 7 p.m. | SECN — Kentucky at Auburn |
| COLLEGE HOCKEY (MEN'S) | |
| 6 p.m. | BTN — Wisconsin at Michigan |
| 9:30 p.m. | CBSSN — St. Cloud State at Colorado College |
| COLLEGE LACROSSE (MEN'S) | |
| 4 p.m. | ACCN — Colgate at Syracuse |
| COLLEGE SOFTBALL | |
| 12 p.m. | PAC-12N — Kajikawa Classic: Northwestern vs. Utah, Tempe, Ariz. |
| 2:30 p.m. | PAC-12N — Kajikawa Classic: Kansas vs. Arizona, Tempe, Ariz. |
| 5:30 p.m. | PAC-12N — Kajikawa Classic: Portland State vs. Arizona State, Tempe, Ariz. |
| COLLEGE WRESTLING | |
| 7 p.m. | ACCN — Virginia at Pittsburgh |
| 9 p.m. | BTN — Penn State at Wisconsin |
| FIGURE SKATING | |
| 5:30 p.m. | NBCSN — Four Continents Championships: Ladies Short Program, Seoul, South Korea (taped) |
| 7:30 p.m. | NBCSN — Four Continents Champi- |

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Sacramento | 19 | 31 | .380 | 19½ |
| Golden State | 12 | 40 | .231 | 27½ |

Wednesday's Games
Detroit 116, Phoenix 108
Brooklyn 129, Golden State 88
Toronto 119, Indiana 118
Boston 116, Orlando 100
Atlanta 127, Minnesota 120
Oklahoma City 109, Cleveland 103
Memphis 121, Dallas 107
Denver 98, Utah 95
L.A. Clippers 128, Miami 111

Thursday's Games
Orlando at New York
New Orleans at Chicago
Philadelphia at Milwaukee
San Antonio at Portland
Houston at L.A. Lakers

Today's Games
Dallas at Washington, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Houston at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Miami at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Portland at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Milwaukee at Orlando, 5 p.m.
Dallas at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
New York at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Boston at Oklahoma City, 3:30 p.m.
Chicago at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Memphis at Washington, 6 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Portland, 9 p.m.

NBA All-Star Weekend Rosters

At United Center

Chicago

Saturday, Feb. 15

| SKILLS CHALLENGE | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|------|-----|--|
| Participant, Team | Pos | Ht | Wt | |
| Bam Adebayo, Miami | C-F | 6-9 | 255 | |
| Patrick Beverly, L.A. Clippers | G | 6-1 | 180 | |
| Spencer Dinwiddie, Brooklyn | G | 6-5 | 215 | |
| Khris Middleton, Milwaukee | F | 6-7 | 225 | |
| Derrick Rose, Detroit | G | 6-2 | 200 | |
| Domantas Sabonis, Indiana | F | 6-11 | 240 | |
| Pascal Siakam, Toronto | F | 6-9 | 230 | |
| Jayson Tatum, Boston | F | 6-8 | 210 | |

THREE-POINT CONTEST

| Participant, Team | Pos | Ht | Wt | |
|----------------------------|-----|------|-----|--|
| Davis Bertans, Washington | F | 6-10 | 225 | |
| Devonte' Graham, Charlotte | G | 6-1 | 195 | |
| Joe Harris, Brooklyn | G | 6-6 | 220 | |
| Buddy Hield, Sacramento | G | 6-4 | 220 | |
| Zach Lavine, Chicago | G | 6-6 | 200 | |
| Damian Lillard, Portland | G | 6-2 | 195 | |
| Duncan Robinson, Miami | F | 6-7 | 215 | |
| Trae Young, Atlanta | G | 6-1 | 180 | |

| SLAM DUNK | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|------|-----|--|
| Participant, Team | Pos | Ht | Wt | |
| Pat Connaughton, Milwaukee | G | 6-4 | 214 | |
| Aaron Gordon, Orlando | F | 6-9 | 235 | |
| Dwight Howard, L.A. Lakers | C | 6-10 | 265 | |
| Derrick Jones Jr., Miami | F | 6-6 | 210 | |

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Boston | 55 | 33 | 10 | 12 | 78 | 183 | 138 |
| Tampa Bay | 53 | 33 | 15 | 5 | 71 | 192 | 147 |
| Florida | 52 | 29 | 17 | 6 | 64 | 188 | 171 |
| Toronto | 54 | 28 | 19 | 7 | 63 | 194 | 181 |
| Montreal | 55 | 25 | 23 | 7 | 57 | 172 | 170 |
| Buffalo | 53 | 23 | 23 | 7 | 53 | 151 | 167 |
| Ottawa | 53 | 18 | 24 | 11 | 47 | 144 | 179 |
| Detroit | 54 | 12 | 38 | 4 | 28 | 111 | 207 |

Metropolitan Division

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Washington | 54 | 36 | 13 | 5 | 77 | 197 | 160 |
| Pittsburgh | 52 | 33 | 14 | 5 | 71 | 176 | 142 |
| Columbus | 54 | 29 | 16 | 9 | 67 | 144 | 135 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 51 | 30 | 15 | 6 | 66 | 150 | 139 |
| Philadelphia | 53 | 29 | 17 | 7 | 65 | 170 | 157 |
| Carolina | 53 | 20 | 30 | 3 | 63 | 169 | 145 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 52 | 26 | 22 | 4 | 56 | 171 | 169 |
| New Jersey | 52 | 18 | 24 | 10 | 46 | 141 | 190 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| St. Louis | 54 | 32 | 14 | 8 | 72 | 174 | 153 |
| Dallas | 53 | 30 | 18 | 5 | 65 | 142 | 136 |
| Colorado | 51 | 29 | 16 | 6 | 64 | 188 | 150 |
| Chicago | 54 | 25 | 21 | 8 | 58 | 161 | 168 |
| Nashville | 52 | 25 | 20 | 7 | 57 | 171 | 172 |
| Winnipeg | 54 | 26 | 23 | 5 | 57 | 159 | 166 |
| Minnesota | 52 | 24 | 22 | 6 | 54 | 160 | 174 |

Pacific Division

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|
| Vegas | 55 | 27 | 21 | 7 | 61 | 170 | 166 |
| Arizona | 55 | 27 | 21 | 7 | 61 | 155 | 148 |
| Calgary | 54 | 27 | 21 | 6 | 60 | 147 | 166 |
| San Jose | 54 | 23 | 27 | 4 | 50 | 139 | 178 |
| Anaheim | 53 | 22 | 26 | 5 | 49 | 137 | 163 |
| Los Angeles | 54 | 19 | 30 | 5 | 43 | 133 | 171 |

A step ahead? Nike’s Vaporfly shoe changing marathon game

By **PAT GRAHAM AND ALEXANDRA OLSON**
Associated Press

To pick the favorites in this year’s Olympic marathon, just glance at the shoes of the runners on the starting line.

Anyone wearing Nike’s Vaporfly model may already have a head start.

The shoe has shaken up distance running since the world’s largest sports apparel company introduced it four years ago, with technology credited for helping runners shave minutes off their times. To some, the advances are an exciting revolution. Others have called it “technology doping” that risks reducing marathons to a shoe competition.

“Running is so simple. That’s why people love it so much. Now we have a shoe that is blurring that,” said Geoff Burns, a runner and Ph.D. candidate at the University of Michigan’s School of Kinesiology.

The controversy prompted World Athletics, the sport’s governing body, to issue its most stringent shoe regulations in decades ahead of the Tokyo Games. But the Vaporfly escaped a ban, and the debate continues.

Now, Nike has a new racing shoe that also squeaks by the new rules: The Air Zoom Alphafly Next percent, which was unveiled at a flashy fashion show in New York on Wednesday night. Eliud Kipchoge of Kenya wore a prototype of the shoe when he ran the world’s first sub-2-hour marathon in an unofficial race in October.

Kenya’s Brigid Kosgei was also in a version of the shoe when she set the world record for women in Chicago last year. Geoffrey Kamworor of Kenya wore a version of Vaporfly when he won the New York Marathon in November. All three of the men’s marathon medalists at the 2016 Rio Olympics laced up a version of the shoe as well.

Vaporfly shoes have become a common sight at marathons all over, easily spotted with their neon green or pink hue.

Many marathoners are gladly paying the \$250 price tag on Nike’s website – and sometimes more – even as they wonder how much cred-

it they can personally take for improved results.

Bryan Lam, an amateur marathoner in Washington, D.C. said he spent \$400 for a pair of StockX ahead of the London Marathon last spring because the version he wanted was sold out elsewhere. He ran the marathon in 2:59.30, seven minutes faster than his previous personal best, a result he called “insane.” It helped him achieve his lifelong goal of qualifying for the Boston Marathon this year.

“I’d like to think that it was because of all of my training for the London Marathon but I do think the shoes had something to do with my performance,” Lam said. “It’s definitely not a level playing field when those who can afford the shoes have that type of advantage.”

What differentiates the Vaporfly is a foam midsole that is lighter and less dense than others, allowing for extra cushioning without adding weight. The shoe also has a carbon-fiber plate that acts like a lever to reduce the work at the ankle. Independent and company-sponsored studies have found that the shoe gives runners a 4 percent edge in energy efficiency.

The Air Zoom Alphafly Next percent steps it up a notch with two “air pods” in the sole for extra cushioning. Both the Vaporfly and the Alphafly meet a World Athletic rule that limits the sole thickness to no more than 40 millimeters. The Alphafly will be available for sale to Nike members starting Feb. 29, meaning it meets a new rule that shoes must be available on the open market by April 30 to be allowed at the Tokyo Games.

Kyle Barnes, an exercise science assistant professor at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, conducted a study around two years ago that compared the Vaporfly shoes to Nike’s Zoom Mautumbo 3 (a track spike) and Adidas Adizero Adios 3. His findings showed about 4.2 percent more efficiency by wearing the Vaporfly model.

Bottom line: Barnes estimated that slipping into the Vaporfly could potentially trim several minutes off a professional’s time and in the vicinity of 10 minutes

for, say, a 4-hour marathoner.

“It is a form of technology doping,” said Barnes, who co-authored the study with exercise physiology professor Andrew Kilding from Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand. “You’re at a disadvantage not being in those shoes. ... Everything is happening so quick right now in the shoe industry.”

World Athletics sought a middle ground in its recent decision, making clear that wearing the Vaporfly will not constitute cheating. But in tightening its rules, the Monaco-based organization signaled a new era of vigilance.

The governing body said an expert working group will be created to assess new shoes entering the market and placed a moratorium on certain criteria for shoes. It also banned any shoe with a sole thickness of more than 40-millimeters, or that contains more than one plate.

The Vaporfly controversy has drawn comparisons to the advantages that swimmers received wearing the Speedo LZR Racer, a full-body compression suit that trapped air for buoyancy and improved performance, leading to a slew of world records. Swimming’s world governing body later banned all body-length swimwear.

But the minimal technology involved in running has evolved only gradually, said Burns. The last major changes, he said, came in the 1960s and ‘70s, when shoe manufacturers developed EVA-based foam midsoles and all-weather tracks began replacing cinder tracks.

Nike also is working on a fast shoe for the 100 meters. It’s called the Nike Air Zoom Viperfly and as of now will not be at the Olympics because its design does not meet the new World Athletics regulations. Nike is looking at ways to adjust the shoe so that it will comply with regulations, according to a person familiar with the discussion. The person spoke on condition of anonymity of the ongoing process since it’s not public.

Other companies are also pushing the boundaries of shoe technology.

Saucony has a carbon-plated shoe called the Endorphin

Pro, which marathoner Jared Ward wrote in a blog felt like the shoes were “pushing me forward into more of a half-marathon cadence.”

Translation: It’s fast.

Joyciline Jepkosgei won the women’s marathon in New York wearing an Adidas Adizero Pro prototype, which the company said in a statement conforms with the new rules. Adidas did not release details about the shoe’s technical design.

Hoka One One recently came out with the Carbon X, which was described as a cushioned, carbon-plated “speed machine” for a “propulsive, responsive ride.”

“We’re all fans of the sport,” said Colin Ingram, director of product for Hoka One One. “We’re all for (technology advances) as long as we’re able to do it within our own DNA when we decide to jump into the foray.”

For the moment, though, Nike appears to hold a sizable lead over any rival.

“I suspect they’re three years behind, minimum, and so it’ll take a long time before race results have any real integrity in a competitive sense,” sports scientist Ross Tucker wrote in an email. “It turned athletes from 2:06 to 2:04. It decided results. It changed the relationship between physiological input and performance outputs.”

Burns said a new era of advanced shoe technology could potentially disrupt the prevailing sponsorship model in running, in which shoe companies generally serve as the main sponsors of athletes. Burns said more athletes may look beyond shoe companies if a contract forces them to wear a shoe that puts them at a competitive disadvantage.

“If you have guys bringing knives to a gunfight, it’s not a good look for the knife sponsors,” Burns said.

American distance runner Roberta Groner doesn’t have a shoe deal and trains in a variety of brands, including a version of the Vaporfly. She could be wearing that model at the U.S. Olympic marathon trials in Atlanta later this month.

“I don’t get into the science,” Groner said. “I just go with how I feel.”

Beekman put to the test as Michigan State seeks new coach

By **NOAH TRISTER**
Associated Press

Bill Beekman became Michigan State athletic director during a turbulent period in the school’s history, taking the job two years ago with minimal experience in athletics.

Now he faces one of the most important tasks for any Big Ten AD – hiring a new football coach.

“In my two years, we’ve only had one coaching search – for a rowing coach,” Beekman told reporters this week. “I’d challenge most of you to name the rowing coach.”

Rowing won’t be foremost on the minds of most Michigan State fans in days to come. For the first time in over a decade, the Spartans need a football coach after Mark Dantonio announced his retirement Tuesday. That puts Beekman, who took over in 2018 in the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal, on the spot.

Michigan State’s previous athletic director, Mark Hollis, retired early in 2018 amid the fallout from the sex abuse scandal involving Nassar, a former Michigan State sports doctor who also worked for USA Gymnastics. Around the time of Hollis’ departure, ESPN reported allegations of sexual assault and violence against women involving Michigan State football and basketball players. The report questioned how the athletic department handled those cases.

Into that turmoil stepped Beekman, who had been executive director of the MSU Alumni Association, as well as a vice president of the school and secretary of its board. He did not have experience running a major athletic department. Dantonio’s departure, which came a few weeks after the usual college football hiring season, puts Beekman to the test, but this coaching change didn’t come totally out of nowhere. The Spartans were one of the Big Ten’s best teams from 2010-15 but have struggled since then. And Dantonio is 63. At some point, his tenure was going to end.

“You’re constantly sort of scanning the horizon and thinking what you’d do, and certainly in the last number of weeks, as conversations with Mark have begun to

think about this as a possibility, we’ve gotten more into the weeds,” Beekman said. “I think it’s something that, if you’re doing your job, you’ve always got in the back of your mind, and you’ve always got some flavor of a list or a set of ideas, or at the very least, a set of criteria.”

Pittsburgh coach Pat Narduzzi, who was previously the defensive coordinator at Michigan State, downplayed the possibility of returning to the Spartans. There’s been speculation about Cincinnati’s Luke Fickell, which would bring some symmetry to the hire after Dantonio’s exit. Dantonio, like Fickell, was a defensive coordinator at Ohio State and the head coach at Cincinnati before taking over the Spartans.

“I think Michigan State has been most successful when it’s looked at somebody that knows the territory,” Beekman said. “Doesn’t mean it has to be an alum, but somebody who gets the flavor of who we are as an institution.”

Five years ago, Michigan State might have seemed like a top-level job. The Spartans won Big Ten titles in 2010, 2013 and 2015. Dantonio had changed the perception of what was possible for the program.

But now, Michigan State faces some familiar challenges. Michigan has regained the upper hand in its in-state rivalry with the Spartans, and Ohio State is as tough as ever. Penn State is also in Michigan State’s division.

And the off-field concerns haven’t gone away. Curtis Blackwell, a former Michigan State football employee, filed a lawsuit claiming his employment agreement was violated when he was disciplined while the school addressed sexual assault allegations against players in 2017. A recent filing in that case from Blackwell’s lawyer suggested that deposition testimony by Dantonio may have revealed NCAA violations.

“To the best of our knowledge, as I understand the allegations, they’re patently false,” Beekman said. “We’ll be happy to defend that in a court of law.”

Beekman said he’d consider Dantonio’s input on the coaching search. Ultimately, this next hire could define his tenure as AD.

MLS salaries, charter flights rise in new labor deal

NEW YORK (AP) — The minimum salary for senior players in Major League Soccer will rise from \$70,250 last year to \$109,200 in 2024 as part of a five-year collective bargaining agreement, and the use of charter flights will expand.

Free agent eligibility also will increase under the agreement announced Thursday, which is subject to ratification by both sides.

“This agreement addresses key strategic priorities for the league and our players while also retaining the basic player compensation structure that has been the foundation for the growth and stability of Major League Soccer,” Commissioner Don Garber said in a prepared statement. “We had constructive, positive discussions with the leadership of the MLSPA and the players’ bargaining committee during the negotiations over the last few months and I would like to thank them for their collaboration in concluding an agreement that will serve as the foundation for a new era of partnership with our players.”

Spending power per team will go up from \$8.49 million last year to

\$11,643,000 in the final season of the deal. The agreement includes a provision in which players will share in increased media revenue in 2023 and 2024. Player spending will go up by an amount equal to 25 percent above the 2022 figure plus \$100 million.

Each team has 18-20 players on its senior roster, and their minimum rises to \$81,375 this year. Each team has up to eight players on its reserve roster, and their minimum goes up from \$56,250 last year to \$63,547 this season and \$85,502 in 2024.

Under the expired contract, each team had the right to use a charter flight on up to four legs per season. Under the new deal, teams must go by charter for eight legs this year and the figure will expand to 16 by 2024. Teams also will have to use charters for all postseason games and all CONCACAF Champions League games involving international flights.

Players who are at least 24 and have five years of MLS service will be eligible for free agency, down from 28 and eight years of service. The deal caps the increases in contracts for free agents.

War-weary Afghan youth turns to snowboarding sport for thrills

By **TAMEEM AKHGAR**
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Aspen! Zermatt! Kabul?

While Afghanistan’s capital may seem an unlikely destination for snowboarders, a group of young Afghans is looking to put the city on the winter sports map and change perceptions about their war-weary nation.

Kabul is better known for its hulking concrete blast walls and tense security checkpoints. But it also sits in a valley in the Hindu Kush mountains at an elevation of around 1,800 meters (5,900 feet). The rugged terrain has inspired young Afghans to take to the surrounding mountains in search of fun.

Ahmad Romal Hayat, 22, who founded the Afghanistan Snowboarding Federation, said that even a country plagued by war and sectarian conflict can have room for sports.

“We started doing it (snowboarding) to show this new face to the world,” said Hayat.

As a teenager, he started out on a skateboard. Later, he bought a snowboard in neighboring Iran and taught himself how to ride it. Hayat said he’s the first person to bring a snowboard into Afghanistan, and the first to try it there.

These days, he and handful of federation members hit the slopes outside Kabul

each weekend, usually with around a dozen male and female students and plenty of spectators. They come for the free training on a snowy hillside west of the capital, often shrouded in pale grey mist.

The mountain, known as Kohe Koregh, was used by the Afghan mujaheddin, or holy warriors, to rain artillery and rockets down on Kabul during the Afghan civil war in the 1990s.

Now, it’s a place for laughing kids who sled on plastic bags, while Hayat’s team members work on improving their snowboarding skills on about 60 centimeters (2 feet) of snow.

They still have to share snowboards, and the hill has no lift facility. That means they’ve got to hike back up to the top after each run – a tiring process.

While climbing back up the hill, Karim Faizi described his path to becoming a snowboarding instructor. He fled Afghanistan in 2016 to escape the almost two-decade-old war between the U.S. and Taliban militants.

He ended up seeking asylum in Germany where he fell in love with snowboarding. In 2018, he returned to Afghanistan, saying he did so without awaiting a final decision on his asylum case.

Now he is worried about the future.

“If the Taliban come back, it’ll be impossible to keep snowboarding, because the

Taliban are not sports-friendly people. They want neither peace nor sports,” he said. A few sports, like soccer and wrestling, were allowed during the Taliban’s harsh religious rule from 1996 to 2001.

Fighting between the Taliban on one side and the United States and its Afghan government allies on the other has continued to rage, even as the U.S. works to hammer out a peace agreement with the insurgent group.

The U.S. and the Taliban are negotiating a reduction in hostilities or a cease-fire to allow the signing of a peace agreement. That deal would open the way to a broader post-war agreement for Afghans, and allow for the withdrawal of most, if not all, U.S. and coalition forces.

The country’s post-war future and the role of the Taliban remains unclear. The Taliban currently control or hold sway over around half the country.

Right now, the only places with enough security to offer winter sports activities are in Kabul and the central province of Bamiyan. Hayat said skiers and snowboarders haven’t been able to explore mountains with great potential in Ghazni and Wardak provinces southwest of the capital because the Taliban hold those areas.

Bamiyan province is infamous for once being home to two massive 1,500-year-old statues of Buddha carved

into a mountain, which the Taliban blew up in 2001.

But Bamiyan also hosts a skiing competition each year, and the country’s small snowboarding community is set to travel there for an indoor competition on Saturday. They’re also heading east to neighboring Pakistan’s picturesque Swat valley later this month to take part in an outdoor competition.

Hayat has registered the Afghan chapter with the International Snowboard Federation, although the Afghan government offers no financial support. Faizi said he dreams of returning to train in Germany, and to one day represent Afghanistan in the Winter Olympics.

But back on the slopes of Kohe Koregh, some young Afghans were excited to simply get their first taste of snowboarding.

Zahra Hakimi, 16, is a member of the minority Hazara ethnic group. She came with friends to watch the snowboarders. She and another friend eventually decided to give it a shot.

At first, Hakimi struggled to keep her balance, but eventually managed to go 10 meters (around 30 feet) at a time without falling.

“When I see how crazy people are for this sport – girls and boys trying, falling down again and again but still keep doing it – I really believe it has a bright future,” she said.

Teen in sketchy situation resists efforts to help her

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old granddaughter has lived for the past several years in an environment with adults who have done drugs, can't or won't keep a job and are in and out of jail. I want her to have a better life, and I try to explain what a responsible adult life looks like. But when I do, she accuses me of being judgmental and nonaccepting because these people are "nice." How can I get her to understand that the lifestyle she's exposed to isn't good without coming off as judgmental? — At A Loss For Words

DEAR AT A LOSS: The lessons we teach others don't always have to be verbal. One way would be to expose your granddaughter — as often as possible — to people who have chosen a different way of life and are reaping the rewards for it. Perhaps then she will begin to draw her own conclusions and realize that she can have a different life if she's willing to work toward it.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-fiance decided to leave our relationship and our 10-month-old son, "Nicky," about a month ago. He sees Nicky regularly and is a good father. I know our relationship is over and that it's not going to be fixed. To be honest, when he left, I was relieved.

The other day, I suggested to my ex that maybe once a month we take our son out together to do something, like go to the park or the zoo. My reasoning is that Nicky needs to know that even though his mom and dad are no longer together, we can still get along. His response was he didn't think it was a good idea. He doesn't want our son to get the wrong impression. I just said "OK" and left it alone.

Is he right? Would it confuse our son, or is he being selfish? It seems unrealistic to me that we will never do anything together. My son is my No. 1 priority, and I just want to handle it the best that I can for him. Please help me. — Confused In Santa Maria, Calif.

DEAR CONFUSED: Your ex may have said what he did because he doesn't understand that you have accepted that the romance is really over. Don't accuse him of being selfish. Be patient. In the future, Nicky will understand that, although Mom and Dad are not together, they get along, if you truly DO get along. As Nicky grows older, there will be events such as birthdays, sporting events, graduations, etc., you will probably wind up enjoying together — or eventually with significant others or spouses included.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 13-year-old dancer, and I recently had a recital. The mothers came backstage to help their children change in the dressing rooms.

A girl my age who has two lesbian mothers was near me while I changed. It made me feel self-conscious. I'm normally not like this, but it felt awkward, to say the least. I'm not against same-sex couples, but it felt weird. Am I overreacting? — Midwest Dancer

DEAR MIDWEST DANCER: I think so. Those two mothers were more interested in what was going on with their daughter than with you. If you plan to become a professional dancer — or part of any branch of the performing arts — you will be changing costumes under all kinds of conditions. This means you will be around straight males and females, gay people of both genders and, occasionally, trans people. It's a fact of life because separate dressing rooms may not be available.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Bear constellation
- 5 Infuriated
- 8 Wish for
- 12 Largest of the Marianas
- 13 Yes, to Pierre
- 14 Girlfriend in Cannes
- 15 Rescue
- 16 No —, and or but
- 17 Ceremonial garb
- 18 Views as
- 20 Office furniture
- 22 Nonsense!
- 23 Turkish honorific
- 24 Plant firmly
- 27 Important person
- 30 Call — cab
- 31 Switch positions
- 32 French monarch
- 34 Web addr.
- 35 — out (relax)

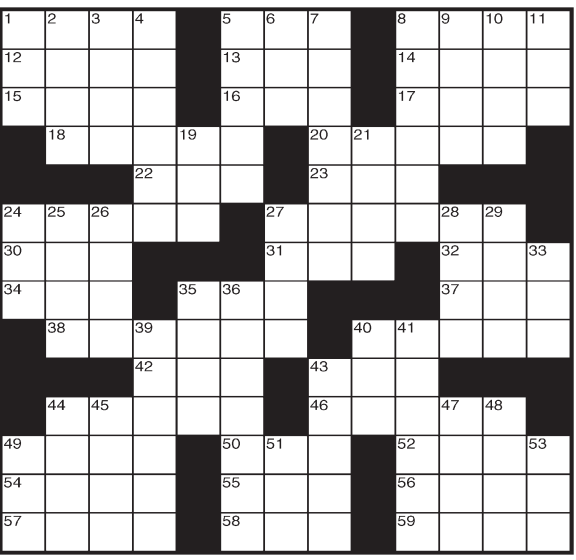
37 Chicago

- airport code
- 38 Parish priests
- 40 Scourges
- 42 Hotfoot it
- 43 Chatter
- 44 White, in Paris
- 46 More scarce
- 49 Jokey magic word
- 50 T, in Athens
- 52 All excited
- 54 Blackthorn fruit
- 55 Bonn single
- 56 "Soft Watches" painter
- 57 Sorts
- 58 Prohibited insecticide
- 59 Paradise

Answer to Previous Puzzle



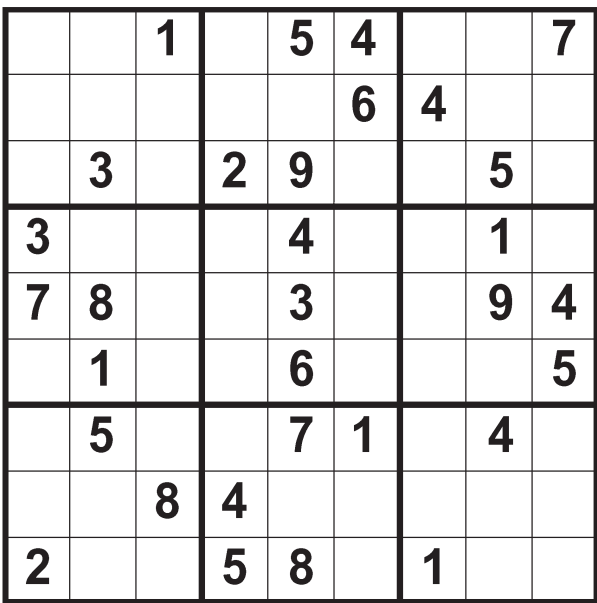
- 5 Clammy
- 6 — Wiedersehen
- 7 Spurn
- 8 City in Poland
- 9 In a frenzy
- 10 Robin beaks
- 11 Links gizmo
- 19 Trendy
- 21 Future turtles
- 24 Flightless bird
- 25 TV's — Griffin
- 26 Island near Java
- 27 Cranberry locales
- 28 Metallic element
- 29 Mr. Vidal
- 33 Egos' counterparts
- 35 Arrogant
- 36 Built
- 39 Makes sore by rubbing
- 40 Meadow murmur
- 41 Scrape
- 43 Foot soldier
- 44 Seed pod
- 45 Peek
- 47 By Jove!
- 48 Part in a drama
- 49 Frat letter
- 51 Relief
- 53 Tonic partner



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



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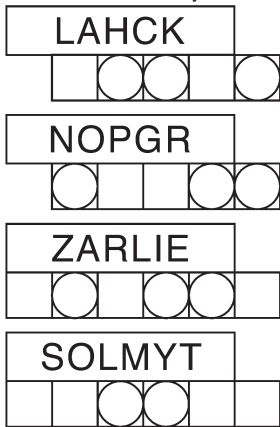
How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 7 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 3 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| 3 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 8 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| 5 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| 2 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 1 |
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 5 |

JUMBLE

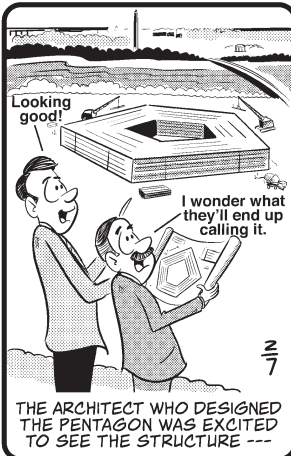
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

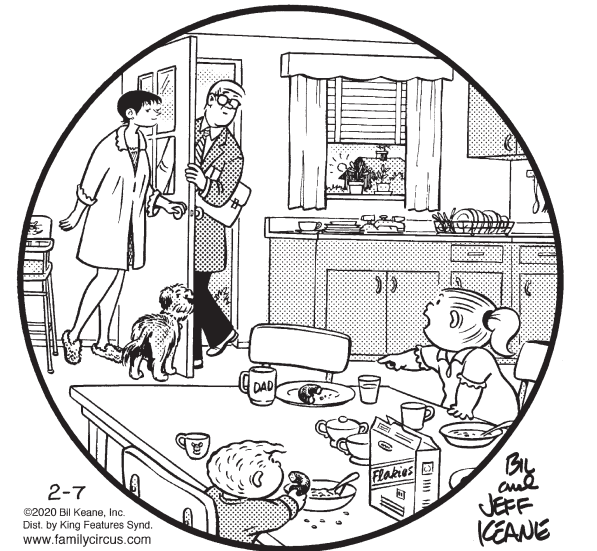


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: ABATE LOOPY COARSE GOTCHA Answer: The mobile hot dog vendor did a great business selling everything — A LA "CART"

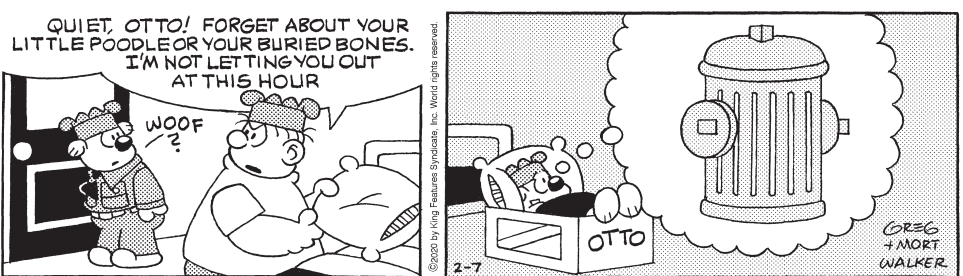
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

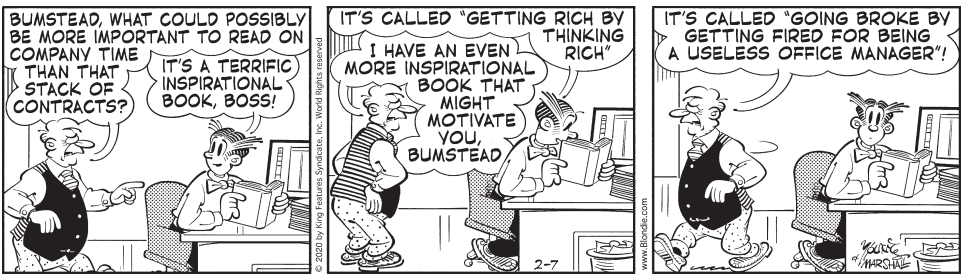


"Daddy, don't you wanna take the other half of your doughnut to eat at recess?"

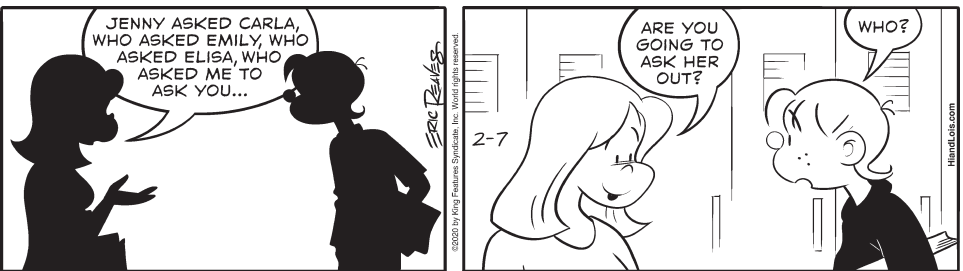
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



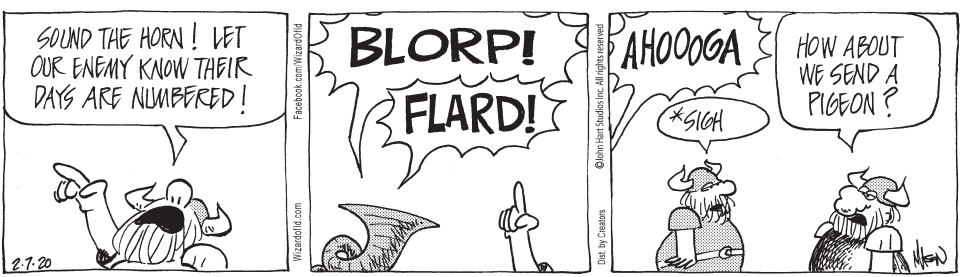
HI & LOIS



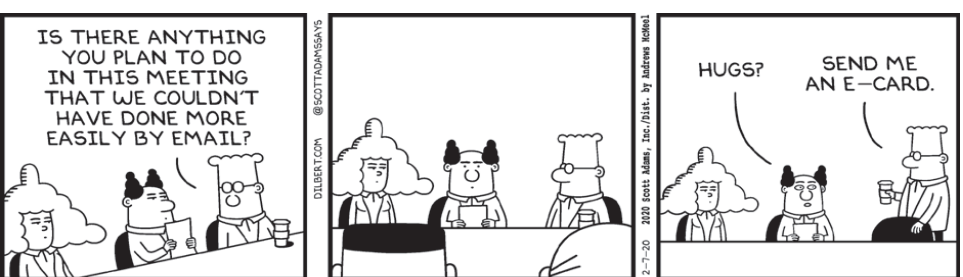
BC



WIZARD OF ID



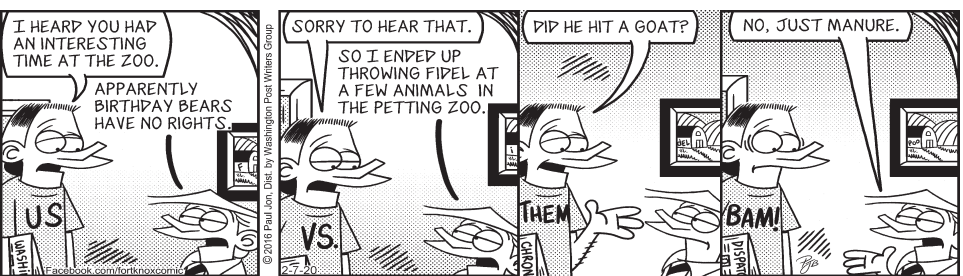
DILBERT



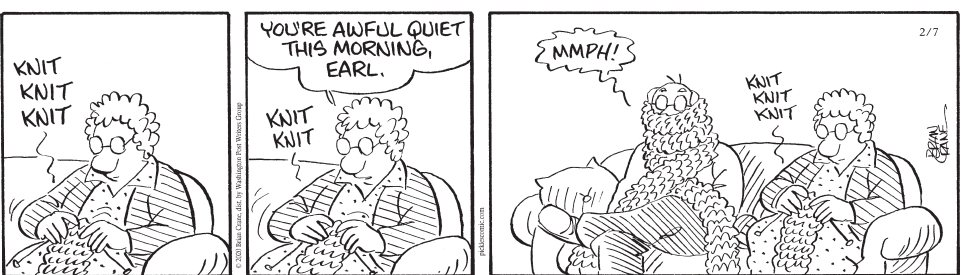
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES

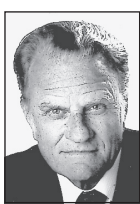


Being a Christian involves a lifetime of hard work

Q: I am discouraged because I thought that by becoming a Christian all of my troubles would vanish. They haven't; yet I still believe that God has forgiven me, and I don't want to turn my back on Him. What am I not understanding? — N.B.

A: We must beware of any belief system that claims "happy-ever-after-endings" on earth. There are many voices that claim that becoming a Christian erases all problems; that it will lead to earthly wealth and success. This is not true. Becoming a believer in Christ is a wonderful new beginning, but it isn't the end of pain or problems. It is the beginning of facing up to them. Being a Christian involves a lifetime of hard work, dedicated study and difficult decisions.

Billy Graham



Living the Christian life is serious business. If we have our eyes upon ourselves, our problems, and our pain, we cannot lift our eyes upward. Just as a child looks up to a parent as they walk together, so are we to look up to Christ and follow Him. The majority of difficulties believers experience can be traced to a lack of Bible study and praying to the Lord for direction, correction, comfort, and assurance that He is with us every step of the way. Christianity is not an in-

surance policy against life's ills and troubles; it is about glorifying Him in the midst of them. He may not take away trials or make detours for us, but He strengthens us through them. This becomes part of our testimony to the unbelieving world — and it has the ability to point others to the Savior. We must learn to let the Word of God feed and strengthen us in living out Christ's message to the world as we depend upon the Holy Spirit to teach us.

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"M'A LDMOL ED RD VITE M VTOE ED RD. M'A LDMOL ED CY VID M SYTUUG TA. M'A LDMOL ED PMLHSY DHE VITE EITE MB." — YAAT VTEBDO

Previous Solution: "Ambition can be found in someone who's quiet and thoughtful and prefers to lead a simple life." — Eliza Scanlen

TODAY'S CLUE: 3 5 1 9 2 6 4

Mayor: ‘Senseless’ attack leaves 4 dead in Indianapolis home

By **RICK CALLAHAN**
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Four young people who police say were fatally shot inside an apartment in Indianapolis were killed in an apparent targeted attack “fueled by senseless violence,” the city’s mayor said Thursday.

Officers were dispatched to an apartment complex about 10:30 p.m. Wednesday after a caller reported that an apartment’s patio door had been shattered and possibly shot out and that “subjects” were seen fleeing the scene. Inside the apartment, officers found three men and one woman dead from apparent gunshots, police said.

The Marion County Coroner’s office identified the three slain men as Marcel Wills, 20, Braxton Ford, 21, and Jalen Roberts, 19; and the woman as 21-year-old Kimari Hunt. The office wasn’t yet ready to release information on the causes of death. Marcheale Kay Hall, the office’s deputy administrator, said.

Police have made no arrests in the killings, saying Thursday afternoon that they had no update on the search for possible suspects.

Craig McCartt, deputy chief of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, said officers worked throughout the night at the apartment on the city’s far northeast side — an area with a low-income housing that’s

plagued by high crime rates — to canvass the scene, interview witnesses and collect evidence.

McCartt said the initial 911 caller said “some subjects were seen fleeing from that residence,” but that officers were still trying to identify suspects in the shootings.

“We do not believe this was a random incident. We believe this was definitely a targeted incident,” McCartt said during a news briefing with the other city officials. Police do not yet have a motive, but he said investigators have “some theories,” including the possibility that a robbery may have preceded the killings.

Police Chief Randal Taylor said the department is “heartbroken for the families” but is focused on finding whoever is responsible. He urged anyone who may have heard or seen something connected to the shootings to contact police.

“There’s answers out there. There’s people who know,” Taylor said.

Mayor Joe Hogsett decried the killings as an “incredible tragedy, one fueled by senseless violence.”

“In the blink of an eye four young lives have been lost — victims of a cycle of pain and hopelessness that has become all too common in our city and other urban areas across the country,” he said. “This is not acceptable. This is not who we are as a city. This is not normal.”

Business executive drops out of Indiana gubernatorial race

By **TOM DAVIES**
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Longtime health care business executive Woody Myers on Wednesday became the presumptive Democratic nominee to challenge Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb as the only other expected candidate dropped out of the race.

Tech business leader Josh Owens announced his endorsement of Myers in a statement as he ended his candidacy two days ahead Friday’s filing deadline for the May primary.

Holcomb has a big front-runner advantage while he seeks re-election and started this year about \$7.25 million his campaign account as he’s leveraged leading a GOP-dominated state without any high-profile Democratic challengers.

Owens said in a statement that he believed Democrats needed to avoid a divisive primary.

“During this primary, I’ve had many discussions with Dr. Woody Myers about the future of Indiana and the desperate need for new leadership in the Governor’s office,” Owens said. “While we have some differences, I’m encouraged that like me, he’s not a career politician. Dr. Myers brings an outsider’s perspective to our politics, which is urgently needed.”

Myers, a physician who was Indiana’s state health commissioner in the 1980s, said he was “honored” by Owens’ decision “so that we can all focus on bringing new leadership to the Governor’s office to create solutions to benefit every Hoosier this November.”

“I look forward to working with him to bring access to affordable health care, high-quality education and good-paying jobs to Hoosiers throughout Indiana,” Myers

said in a statement.

Myers gained prominence as state health commissioner by advocating for teenage AIDS patient Ryan White’s right to attend a public school that sought to keep him out due to his illness.

Myers later became New York City health commissioner before holding a string of corporate executive positions, including at Indianapolis-based insurer Wellpoint Inc., Tennessee-based prison medical care provider Corizon Health and health insurer Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona.

Holcomb’s fundraising has dwarfed that of Myers, Owens and state Sen. Eddie Melton of Gary, who ended his bid for the Democratic nomination in early January.

Myers reported raising \$180,000, while Owens raised \$84,000 in 2019. Myers promised more aggressive fundraising and announced in January he had hired a top fundraiser for Democratic Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear’s successful 2019 campaign.

Myers spent nearly \$1.8 million of his own money on an unsuccessful 2008 Democratic primary bid for an Indianapolis congressional seat, when he finished second to current U.S. Rep. Andre Carson. But Myers has said that he wouldn’t be self-funding his campaign for governor.

Myers will be the first African American on the Democratic or Republican ticket for Indiana governor or lieutenant governor.

Owens, the 34-year-old CEO of Indianapolis-based online retail strategy company SupplyKick, had cast himself as bringing new energy to the campaign with “a bigger, more inclusive vision” for Indiana’s future. He was seeking to become Indiana’s first openly gay nominee for governor.

Factory farms provide abundant food, but environment suffers

By **JOHN FLESHER**
AP Environmental Writer

AKRON, Iowa — In recent years, Fred Zenk built two barns housing about 2,400 hogs between them — long, white, concrete-and-metal structures that are ubiquitous in the Midwestern countryside.

The Iowa farmer didn’t follow state requirements to get construction approval and file a manure disposal plan. But Zenk’s operation initially flew under the radar of regulators, as have many others across the United States because of loopholes and spotty enforcement of laws intended to keep the nation’s air and water clean.

Beef, chicken and pork have become more affordable staples in the American diet thanks to industry consolidation and the rise of farms with tens of thousands of animals. Yet federal and state environmental agencies often lack basic information such as where they’re located, how many animals they’re raising and how they deal with manure.

The animals and their waste have fouled waters. The enclosures spew air pollutants that promote climate change and are implicated in illnesses such as asthma. The stench of manure — stored in pits beneath barns or open-air lagoons and eventually spread on croplands as fertilizer — can make life miserable for people nearby.

For most of the nation’s history, meat and dairy products came from independent farms that raised animals in barnyards, pastures and rangeland. But the system now is controlled by giant companies that contract with farmers to produce livestock with the efficiency of auto assembly lines inside warehouse-like barns and sprawling feedlots.

The spread of corporate animal farms is turning neighbor

against neighbor in town halls and courtrooms. Iowa, the top U.S. producer of swine and egg-laying chickens, has been a major battleground.

“It’s a fight for survival,” said Chris Petersen, who still raises pigs in outdoor pens.

Michele Merkel, a former EPA attorney who quit over the agency’s reluctance to punish polluting mega-farms and is co-director of the advocacy group Food & Water Justice, said the industry “has avoided any effective regulation and accountability for a long time.”

Industry groups say there are plenty of regulations and livestock agriculture is simply adapting to improved technology, equipment and methods.

“We’re responding to what the market is giving us,” said Brady Reicks, whose company runs numerous large hog structures in northeastern Iowa. “We’re doing it responsibly; we’re passionate about doing it. It increases growth in rural Iowa and it helps feed the world.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began to count the nation’s factory farms during the Obama administration but retreated when industry groups sued. Instead, the agency uses state data to produce annual statistics about only the biggest operations.

As of 2018, the nationwide EPA tally was about 20,300 — a roughly five-fold increase over nearly four decades.

Yet it’s a tiny fraction of all confined animal operations. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates there are more than 450,000, most too small for inclusion in the EPA count.

Iowa has 80 million farm animals and 3 million people. Yet in 2017, regulators didn’t know how many livestock farms were in the state. Under federal pressure, the Department of Natural Re-

sources pored over aerial photos, discovering 4,200 previously unknown facilities.

Zenk’s Plymouth County farm was among them.

“We knew nothing about his operation,” said Sheila Kenny, an environmental specialist with the state agency.

Zenk acknowledged breaking the rules but said no harm was done. He paid a \$4,500 fine.

“You think you can get by with something once in a while and you can’t,” he said, strolling among his barns, tractor and feed bins.

To state regulators, such discoveries mean the system works. Critics say the Iowa experience shows how easily livestock operations can escape detection.

Putting thousands of animals in one enclosure produces huge amounts of manure. Unlike human sewage, which is treated and released to waterways, animal waste is stored, then spread on croplands as fertilizer.

Farmers insist they are careful.

“We take soil tests, we decide how much manure it needs and that’s how much we apply,” Reicks said.

Environmental groups say fields often can’t handle the volumes of manure produced, leading to runoff. Such pollution is exempt from regulation under the 1972 Clean Water Act, even though agriculture is the biggest contaminator of rivers and streams, according to the EPA.

In Emmett County, Iowa, small farmer Gordon Garrison sued a nearby operation with 4,400 hogs, contending manure from its croplands fouls a creek that runs through his property and feeds the Des Moines River.

“They’re using me for a waste disposal site,” Garrison said.

Livestock farms generate

about 70 percent of the nation’s ammonia emissions, plus gases that cause global warming, particularly methane.

Yet they aren’t required to get permits under the Clean Air Act. The government hasn’t decided how to measure emissions from barns, feedlots, storage lagoons and croplands.

And under President Donald Trump, EPA has exempted livestock operations from requirements under other laws that industries report significant releases of air pollutants including ammonia and hydrogen sulfide.

Critics say yesteryear’s barnyard whiffs were nothing like the overpowering stench from today’s super-sized operations.

“You don’t want to be anywhere near them,” said Brad Trom, a crop producer in Minnesota’s Dodge County, who lives within three miles of 11 structures housing 30,000 swine. He says he’s been staggered by powerful odors barreling across his fields.

Farmers say they’re trying to reduce the smells but contend they’re a normal part of country life.

“I’ve never lived on a farm that didn’t have nature’s fragrances on it,” said Gary Sovereign, a swine producer in Iowa’s Howard County.

Research has linked proximity to factory farms to various health risks. But scientists acknowledge it’s nearly impossible to pin someone’s illness on a certain pollutant.

Jeff and Gail Schwartzkopf say after a hog mega-barn was built a quarter-mile from their home in northern Iowa, they developed burning and itching eyes, throat soreness and body rashes. They fear the manure odors are making them sick and ruining their home.

“Nobody’s going to want to buy it. We’re stuck,” Jeff Schwartzkopf said.

DNC chair calls for ‘recanvass’ of Iowa results after delays

By **STEVE PEOPLES, JULIE PACE and BRIAN SLODYSKO**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Democratic National Committee on Thursday called for a “recanvass” of the results of the Iowa caucuses, saying it was needed to “assure public confidence” after three days of technical issues and delays.

“Enough is enough,” party leader Tom Perez wrote on Twitter.

With 97 percent of precincts reporting, Pete Buttigieg, a former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders are nearly tied for the lead, and both candidates have declared themselves victorious.

The Associated Press said Thursday that it is unable to declare a winner in the contest. Beyond technical issues and Perez’s concerns, the Iowa Democratic Party has yet to report results from some satellite caucus sites, from which there are still an unknown number of state delegate equivalents to be won.

The state party apologized for technical glitches with an app that slowed down reporting of results from Monday’s caucuses and has spent the week trying to verify results. However, it was unclear if the party planned to follow

the directive of the national leader to recanvass those results, a process that would likely require state officials to review caucus math worksheets completed at more than 1,600 caucus sites to ensure the calculations were done correctly and matched the reported results.

Iowa chairman Troy Price suggested in a statement Thursday that he would only pursue a recanvass if one was requested by a campaign.

The caucus crisis was an embarrassing twist after months of promoting Iowa as a chance for Democrats to find some clarity in a jumbled 2020 field. Instead, after a buildup that featured seven rounds of debates, nearly \$1 billion spent nationwide and a year of political jockeying, caucus day ended with no winner and no official results.

Campaigning in New Hampshire, Sanders called the Iowa Democratic Party’s management of the caucuses a “screw-up” that has been “extremely unfair” to the candidates and their supporters.

“I really do feel bad for the people of Iowa,” said Sanders, who added that it was “an outrage that they were that unprepared.”

Iowa marked the first contest in a primary season that will span all 50 states and several U.S. territories, ending at the party’s national

convention in July.

As first reported by The New York Times, numerous precincts reported results that contained errors or were inconsistent with party rules. For example, the AP confirmed that dozens of precincts reported more final alignment votes than first alignment votes, which is not possible under party rules. In other precincts, viable candidates lost votes from the first alignment tally to the final, which is also inconsistent with party rules.

Some precincts made apparent errors in awarding state delegate equivalents to candidates. A handful of precincts awarded more state delegate equivalents than they had available. A few others didn’t award all of theirs.

The trouble began with an app that the Iowa Democratic Party used to tabulate the results of the contest. The app was rolled out shortly before caucusing began and did not go through rigorous testing.

The problems were compounded when phone lines for reporting the outcomes became jammed, with many callers placed on hold for hours in order to report outcomes. Party officials said the backlog was exacerbated by calls from people around the country who accessed the number and appeared intent on disrupting the process.

“There was a moment in the night where, it became clear, ‘Oh, the phone number just became available to the entire country,’” said Iowa state Auditor Rob Sands, who was answering calls for the party. “It was a pretty big problem.”

President Donald Trump relished in the Democratic turmoil.

“The Democrats, they can’t count some simple votes and yet they want to take over your health care system,” Trump said at a White House event Thursday celebrating his impeachment trial acquittal. “Think of that — no, think of that.”

The chaos surrounding the reporting breakdown seems sure to blunt the impact of Iowa’s election, which typically rewards winners with a surge of momentum heading into subsequent primary contests. But without a winner called, Democrats have quickly turned their focus to New Hampshire, which holds the next voting contest on Tuesday.

The results released so far show Buttigieg and Sanders locked in an exceedingly close contest. They lead Sen. Elizabeth Warren, as well as former Vice President Joe Biden and Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar.

The two early leaders, Buttigieg and Sanders, are separated by 40 years in age and conflicting ideology.

Buttigieg gains backing from Indianapolis mayor Joe Hogsett

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Pete Buttigieg’s presidential bid gained the backing Thursday of Indiana’s other highest-profile Democrat as Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett joined in filing the paperwork to place the former South Bend mayor’s

name on the state’s May primary ballot.

Buttigieg joins a crowded field of nine Democrats who’ve qualified for the Indiana ballot as his unlikely rise over the past year to the top tier of presidential hopefuls continues.

Hogsett told a few dozen Buttigieg supporters outside the Indiana secretary of state’s office that Buttigieg has shown an ability to work across party lines and “represents the best of what makes America work.”

“Pete’s ability to give

hope to all those disaffected with the status quo is exactly what our state and our country need right now,” Hogsett said.

Other Democrats who’ve filed for Indiana’s primary are former Vice President Joe Biden; Sens. Amy

Klobuchar, Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren; former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg; businessmen Tom Steyer and Andrew Yang; and Hawaii Rep. Tulsi Gabbard. They have until Feb. 20 to withdraw.

Vice President Mike Pence’s wife filed President Donald Trump’s paperwork Wednesday for the state’s Republican primary ballot. Karen Pence touted Trump’s actions toward national economic growth and new foreign trade deals.

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